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Board of Trade Journal.

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The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 621.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where there are at present on view, among other exhibits, samples of iron ore received from H.M. Consuls at various places, to illustrate their reports, which are among those embodied in the publication recently issued by the Board of Trade on "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 15th June, p. 521); samples of Chinese-made footwear (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 6th April, pp. 10-11); samples of copper from the Besshi copper mine in Japan (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 23rd March last, p. 560); and also samples of cotton grown in Colombia (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 22nd June, p. 544).

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 622.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

Bridgework. Bridgework, 60 feet spans.

Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

The conditions of contract may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.), or may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W. Tenders are to be delivered at the latter office by 2 p.m. on Thursday, the 6th July, 1905, after which time no tender will be received.

Pig Iron.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of:—

Pig iron,

as per specification to be seen at the Company's offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Pig Iron," not later than noon, on Wednesday, the 5th July.

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.,** whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiry.—A firm of timber importers desire addresses of Canadian shippers of ash veneers.

Canadian Enquiry.—A Montreal manufacturers' agent is prepared to represent United Kingdom manufacturers of crockery, china and glassware, lamps, cutlery, and plated and agate ware.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—QUEENSLAND.

Enquiries relating to Queensland Trade.

The following enquiries have been received at the **Queensland Government Commercial Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.,** whence further information regarding them may be obtained.

Home Enquiries.—A London firm are desirous of being represented in Queensland by a firm of electrical engineers well

acquainted with the trade and having good connection in the surrounding districts, for the introduction of storage batteries.

A London firm desire appointment as buying agents for Queensland merchants in the soft goods, general drapery, and furnishing trades.

Note.—For further information regarding the above, application should be made to the Queensland Government Commercial Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

EGYPT.

Purchase of Old Tramway Material.

A communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from the Administration of the Egyptian State Railways notifying that tenders for the purchase of the permanent way and rolling stock of the Port Said—Ismailia steam tramway, now lying for sale at Port Said, will be received by the Administration until the 1st October next. Tenders, made out on stamped paper of 30 millièmes (obtainable from Lt.-Col. Western at the address given below), should be placed in registered envelopes bearing the inscription "Offre pour l'achat du matériel fixe et roulant de la ligne de Port Said," and addressed to "M. le President, Chemins de Fer de l'Etat, Cairo."

Conditions of tender, with list of the materials to be sold, can be obtained of Lieut.-Col. Western, R.E., C.M.G., Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S.W., upon payment of 4*s*. per copy. A copy may also be inspected at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Hides, &c.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have also been notified that tenders will be received by Lt.-Col. J. H. Western, London Agent of the Egyptian War Office, for the supply of—

2,125 hides—collar, bridle, bag and sole;
2,000 hide cuttings;
800 basils.

Samples may be seen at Lt.-Col. Western's Office, Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S.W.

Delivery is required by 31st December next, but no payment will be made before 1st January, 1906.

Tenders should be delivered by noon on Monday, 10th July, and must remain open for acceptance for 45 days.

Openings for British Trade.

SWEDEN.

Motors, Gas, Gasoline and Oil Engines.

According to the report of H.M. Consul at Stockholm (Mr. A. S. MacGregor), during last year the use of motors, gas, gasoline and oil engines has increased considerably in Sweden, and interest and confidence in them are growing steadily. It is evident that there is a wide field for these motors, especially where small power is needed.

The supply is both foreign and native. Thus engines from the United Kingdom, United States, Germany and France are to be found together with those of Sweden.

Of gas engines, the suction gas variety seems to take the first place, and is generally used in sizes of up to about 100 horse-power. They are mostly used in factories, and for electric power stations, but are also used for boats. The majority have till now been imported from the United Kingdom and Germany, but the home manufacture is increasing. They are, without exception, of the four-cycle type.

Gasoline or benzine motors ars mostly of small sizes, such as 3, 5 or 7 horse-power. They rarely exceed 40 horse-power. The United States has so far supplied the majority of them, but several Swedish firms have begun building this class of motors. They are principally used in motor-cars and pleasure boats. These motors are likewise of the four-cycle type.

Oil engines are to be found of all sizes from 1 up to 200 horse-power. These engines are by far the most important, and there are indications that their use will be very extensive. This is the case especially as regards fishing boats, smaller freight craft and the like. They are exclusively of Swedish make, and several of the most important works have taken up the manufacture on a large scale, not only for the home market but also for export. On account of its simple construction, as well as the ease with which ordinary people learn to handle it, the two-cycle type has been favourably received in both agricultural and small industrial circles.

Artificial Fertilisers.

Mr. MacGregor also reports that the import of fertilisers has much increased during the last ten years, and as far as can be calculated, ought to continue, for farmers are only now beginning to realise the benefits derivable from such aids to agriculture. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,412.)

DENMARK—FAROE ISLANDS.

Insurance.

According to the report for 1904 of H.M. Consul at Thorshavn (Mr. H. M. Villiers), the question of insurance in the Faroe Islands may possibly be worth the attention of British companies as regards

Openings for British Trade.

DENMARK—FAROE ISLANDS—*continued.*

buildings, life and vessels. On 1st June, 1904, the premium on insurance of buildings was doubled; the rate was formerly 5*l.* per 1,000*l.*, and thus becomes 10*l.*

The present companies give their agents no discriminating powers or differentiating rates, and yet there must be an enormous difference in the risk of a house situated in contact with many others, connected with petroleum storing warehouses, bakeries, &c., and the risk of houses standing several hundred yards away from any other. An agent with discriminating powers might find a fair amount of business if he could offer better conditions than those of which complaint is now being publicly made.

Petroleum Motors.

Mr. Villiers reports also that petroleum motors are now attracting public attention. More than one fishing smack has already been satisfactorily supplied with a petroleum motor, giving a speed of 6 or 7 knots. The first was a vessel of about 50 tons. Smacks are thus able to enter harbour promptly with their catch, and leave again at will for the fishing banks, without waiting for the chance of a favourable breeze and not too strong a current. It is hoped that something also will be found suitable for the Faroese open fishing boats, with which experiments are now being made.

Petroleum.

The introduction of motors will result in the necessity of importing a good quality of petroleum. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,404.)

GERMANY.

Pipe Tobacco.

In his report on the trade of Baden, H.M. Consul at Mannheim (Mr. P. Ladenburg) states that the export of tobacco in 1904 was practically nil, even the United Kingdom, owing to the higher duty, relinquishing its usual demand for Palatinate strips. On the other hand the consumption of British manufactured pipe tobacco in Germany appears, in virtue of its excellent quality, to have a future. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,402.)

DUTCH EAST INDIES.

Artificial Fertilizers.

In his report on the trade of Java for 1904, H.M. Consul at Batavia (Mr. D. D. Fraser) states that the demand for nitrogenous manures has shown a steady increase during recent years, due to a certain extent to their liberal use for the cane crops of the island.

Sulphate of ammonia and groundnut cake are the most important manures imported into Java; the former comes chiefly from the United Kingdom and the Netherlands, and the latter from the Coromandel Coast.

Openings for British Trade.

DUTCH EAST INDIES—*continued.*

Axles and Springs.

Mr. Fraser reports also that axles and springs have been regularly imported from the United Kingdom and have found a good market, although they have to compete with those of an inferior and cheaper quality of German manufacture. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series,* 3,403.)

BELGIUM.

Heating Apparatus: Building Construction and Material.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Mr. E. C. Hertslet) that the municipal authorities of that city are calling for tenders for (1) the supply and installation of a heating apparatus in a school in the Rue du Prince, Antwerp; and (2) the supply of material for, and the reconstruction of, the buildings in the Government bonded warehouse known as the "Nord Ancien" and "Nord Nouveau." The adjudication of (1) will take place on the 7th July, and of (2) on the 25th July, deposits of 1,000 francs (40*l.*) and 20,000 francs (800*l.*), respectively, being required to qualify any tender.

The conditions of the contracts may be obtained from the Hôtel de Ville, Antwerp.

All tenders should be sent in sealed registered envelopes, addressed to the Burgomaster, and should reach the Hôtel de Ville not later than the 6th July and the 24th July respectively.

Copies of the conditions of contract may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Viaduct Construction.

The "Bulletin Commercial" of 17th June contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 14th July, at Gand-Sud railway station, for the construction of a viaduct, with metallic superstructure and approaches, and other improvement works near Meirelbeke station, at the estimated cost of 292,921 frs. (about 11,716*l.*). A deposit of 18,000 frs. (about 720*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Specifications (No. 106 of 1905, price 1 fr. 30 c.) may be obtained from M. Sarton, Ingénieur en chef, Chemins de Fer de l'Etat, Ghent.

SWITZERLAND.

Electric Railway Plant.

The "Feuille Fédérale Suisse" of 14th June publishes the text of a concession granted to M. M. J. and E. Schmidheing, of Heerbrugg, and M. H. Leumann, of Kronbühl, for the construction of

Openings for British Trade.

a narrow-gauge electric railway between Heiligkreuz and Wittenbach. The cost of the work, including the laying down of the line, installation of electricity, purchase of rolling stock, &c., is estimated at 330,000 fr. (about 13,200*l.*).

The "Feuille" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

PORTUGAL.

Conditions of Tendering for Railway Materials.

The following particulars of the conditions of tendering for railway materials in Portugal are taken from "La Revue Minéralurgique" (Paris):—

The length of Portuguese railways open to traffic amounts to 2,499 kiloms., worked by four companies. The mode of addressing these is as follows:—

1° Presidente do Concelho d'Administraçâo da Companhia Real dos Caminhos de Ferro, Lisbon; 2° Marquez de Gouveia, Director da Companhia dos Caminhos de Ferro da Beïra Alta, 1, Rua Victor Cordon, Lisbon; 3° Presidente do Concelho d'Administraçâo dos Caminhos de Ferro do Estado, Ministerio das Obras Publicas, Lisbon; 4° Presidente do Concelho d'Administraçâo da Companhia Nacional dos Caminhos de Ferro, 88, Rua S. Nicolau, Lisbon. There is also a company working a narrow-gauge railway, 65 kiloms. in length, between Oporto and Povoa de Varsim, of which the address is:—Presidente do Concelho da Companhia do Porto à Povoa Famaliçâo, Boa Vista, Oporto.

As a rule, tenders are not publicly invited for railway materials; when necessary, firms on lists kept by the companies are invited to quote prices for the materials required. The first step for would-be tenderers, therefore, is to obtain a place on these lists. This is done by means of a formal demand, setting forth the qualifications of the firm, nature of materials manufactured, and any other information likely to prove the firm a desirable addition to the list of tenderers.

The "Revue" adds—"French is well understood in the principal offices, but we must admit that English would probably serve equally well." In furnishing estimates of length and weight, the metric system should always be employed.

SPAIN.

Steel Works.

H.M. Consul at Cadiz (Mr. A. L. Keyser), in his report for 1904 (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,414), repeats his statement that there is an opening for the establishment of steel works at that port.

Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

Light Railways and Motor Car Services.

In the same report, Mr. Keyser states that the proposed coast railway, starting from San Fernando and passing through Chiclana, Medina, Conil, Vejer and Tarifa, has not yet progressed beyond the preliminary stage of talk. This is perhaps partly due to the fact that the scheme is too ambitious. A light railway constructed at far less cost would equally open up the country and be a remunerative enterprise. At present coast towns are away from direct communication with the populous centres where lies a market for all which they produce. A good motor car running between Algeciras and Cadiz for passengers and light merchandise would be an enterprise likely to result in profit to the promoter.

If motor cars were also introduced to open up the country and to some extent take the place of a railway, the advantages to be reaped are, in Mr. Keyser's opinion, very apparent. Any amelioration of local communication or transport would be sure of the approval and support of many influential residents in the district.

Agricultural Machinery, Mining Development, Forage, &c.

See p. 589 for further extracts from Mr. Keyser's report in which reference is made to openings for agricultural machinery, mining development, forage, &c.

Railway Material.

The British Vice-Consul at Huelva (Mr. W. A. Bice) says that it is understood the long projected railway from Huelva to Ayamonte, on the Portuguese frontier, is being taken in hand by the Madrid-Zaragoza-Alicante Railway Company, and there is, therefore, every prospect of its becoming, at a not far distant date, an accomplished fact. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,414.)

Indiarubber Shoes.

The British Vice-Consul at Gijon (Mr. A. Lovelace), in his report for 1904 (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,411), remarks as follows regarding openings for trade in his district :—

"A considerable trade is done in indiarubber over-shoes, the market being held by American and German manufacturers, due, I am informed, to the fact that British manufacturers, whose goods would be preferred for their quality, do not offer the shapes that meet the public taste. Samples of those in demand could be supplied to any firm requesting same.

Sharp-edged Tools.

"Formerly tools of British make were greatly in favour in this district, but at the present time the sale is very limited. German tools of the cheaper and American and French of the better class have

Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

taken their place, the latter being sold with a finer finish than those of British make, thus greatly increasing their selling value. It is not sufficient that goods should be of superior quality if their finish is neglected.

"The above remark applies to many branches of trade, and in this connection I may mention that British firms often appear indifferent to the fact that a quotation including cost of freight, packing, insurance and delivery is often an inducement for placing an order, and failure to do so, where competition is very keen, causes orders to be placed elsewhere.

Locks.

"A good trade ought to be done in locks in this district (Gijon), although I am aware that the competition of cheap French and German locks makes it somewhat difficult for the British article to be introduced, unless a cheap lock is made, which I understand our manufacturers will not undertake to make; but I am convinced that if the requirements of this market were studied, a medium class lock, and even the best quality, would find a market. British-made padlocks are sold in this district, and there is no reason why other kinds should not also compete."

Agricultural Implements.

Mr. Lovelace also reports that there are signs of awakening among the peasants to the benefits derived from the adoption of modern agricultural implements.

Machinery and Hardware; Farming Tools.

The British Vice-Consul for Villagarcia and Carril (Mr. R. Cameron-Walker) reports that, notwithstanding competition, machinery and hardware hold the first place among the imports into those ports from the United Kingdom. A dealer in these articles estimates the value in round numbers of machinery of British manufacture put upon the market during the past year at 5,000*l.*; of agricultural implements, 600*l.*; pumps, 300*l.*; barbed wire and nails, 400*l.*; and tin and tinplates, 1,800*l.*; but by properly directed efforts he believes the trade in all these articles might be largely increased.

He is convinced, moreover, that were the improved farming tools and other labour saving devices of British manufacture once fairly introduced they would find a profitable market. To this end, however, one thing is indispensable, viz., manufacturers and dealers must not begin by making consignments largely on their own account, but they must be content to wait a long time for returns. Long credits are the rule in Spain. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,411.)

Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

Hempen Fishing Nets.

In connection with the fishing industry, the British Vice-Consul at Vivero (Mr. B. Lopez), remarks in his recent report that it may interest British manufacturers of fishing nets to know that the preference is now given to hempen nets over those of cotton which were formerly used. Mr. Lopez considers there would be an opportunity for British manufacturers to monopolise the sale of these articles in his district if they had a direct understanding with the purchasers, in view of which the Vice-Consulate at Vivero would give all necessary information. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,411.)

ITALY.

Sheet and Bar Iron.

The British Vice-Consul at Spezia (Mr. E. M. de Garston) forwards translation of a notice calling for tenders for the supply to the Italian Navy of sheet and bar iron to the estimated total value of 17,976 lire (about 719*l.*), to be delivered at the Royal Arsenal at Spezia.

Sealed tenders will be opened on 11th July next, a deposit of 1,800 lire (about 72*l.*) being required to qualify any tender. Only a single auction is to be held in the case of this contract (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 22nd December, 1904, pp. 536-7). Local representation is necessary.

The special conditions of the contract may be seen at the Ministry of Marine, Rome; at the Directorates General of the Royal Arsenals; at the technical offices of the Navy, Genoa; and at the principal Chambers of Commerce in Italy.

English Stallions.

The "Bollettino Ufficiale" of the Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce announces that tenders are invited for the supply to the Italian Government of thoroughbred English stallions. Offers of sale, made out on stamped paper of 1 lira 20 cents. (obtainable from the Italian Consulate-General in London, 44, Finsbury Square, E.C.) should reach the "Ministero di Agricoltura, Industria e Commercio (Direzione Generale dell'Agricoltura—Ispettorato zootecnico), Rome," by 10th October. Stallions may be presented for inspection at Milan on 1st November; at Pisa on 4th November; or at Santa Maria Capua Vetere on 6th November.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" of 24th June contains a Decree authorising the Roman Tramways and Electric Railways Company to construct and work electric tramways (1·445 m. gauge) between Rome and Grotta-ferrata, and Frascati and Genzano.

The "Gazzetta" may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Openings for British Trade.

BULGARIA.

Rock Salt.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) states that tenders, which will be opened on 22nd July at the offices of the Minister of Finance, Sofia, are invited for the supply of 110,000,000 kilogs. of rock salt.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Miscellaneous Supplies; Engineers' Appliances.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the British Commercial Agent at New York (Mr. E. Seymour Bell) copies of notices issued from the office of the Purchasing Agent at Washington for the Isthmian Canal Commission, calling for tenders for the supply of (1) miscellaneous supplies (sanitary fixtures, pipes, wire rope, hydraulic jacks, &c., &c.); and (2) miscellaneous engineers' appliances and tools. Sealed tenders in triplicate, addressed to the Purchasing Agent, Isthmian Canal Commission, Washington, D.C., will be received up to 10.30 a.m. on the 10th July for (1), and the 17th July for (2).

Specifications and full information may be obtained from the Purchasing Agent at Washington. A copy of the specifications may be examined at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

British Articles in Demand at New Orleans.

According to the report of H.M. Consul at New Orleans (Mr. H. T. C. Hunt) the imports at that port during the year 1904 were the largest yet known. All the important articles show an increase, due to the demands on the part of the consuming public, whose spending power increases every year. Articles of British manufacture of first rate quality and finish find a ready sale at New Orleans on account of their marked superiority; the high import duties do not keep out the goods of firms whose names are household words wherever the English language is understood. There is no market for inferior makes. Salesmen in New Orleans, if they wish specially to recommend any article, always lay great stress on its having been imported as a sign of its good quality.

Public Works.

Mr. Hunt further states that the construction of the large terminal railway station at Chalmette, on the left bank of the River Mississippi, just below the town of New Orleans, will call for an expenditure of 500,000*l.* for the building of a shipping slip, 1,700 feet long and 250 feet wide, having concrete walls 20 feet thick. A further sum of

Openings for British Trade.

500,000*l.* is to be expended in providing grain elevators, freight sheds and other necessary buildings. It is calculated that it will take two years to complete this undertaking, which will be one of the finest of its kind in existence. It will greatly reduce the charges on freight shipped from or landed at New Orleans. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,401.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—PHILIPPINES.

Railway Construction.

Adverting to the notice in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd March, pp. 400-01, the "Railway Age" (Chicago) announces that the United States War Department have invited proposals for concessionary contracts or grants with, and by, the Philippine government in aid of the construction, equipment, maintenance and working of railways in the Philippine Islands. Envelopes containing tenders must be marked: "Proposals for Concessions, Philippine Railways, and addressed to the Bureau of Insular Affairs, War Department, Washington, D.C., or to the Philippine Commission, Manila, Philippine Islands. Tenders will be received at one of the above-named offices up to 1st November, 1905.

Particulars of the lines constituting the proposed railway system, which represent an aggregate of about 1,133 miles, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

CHILE.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Diario Oficial" of Chile of 14th April contains a Decree authorising Messrs. Manuel and Horacio Valdes Ortúzar to construct and work an electric tramway (1·440m. gauge) for the conveyance of passengers and goods between Santiago and San Bernardo.

The "Diario" may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

BRAZIL.

Ticket Stamping Machines.

The "Diario Official" of Brazil of 31st May contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply to the Central Railway of Brazil of 25 ticket stamping machines, in accordance with conditions set forth in the "Diario." Tenders have to be presented at the offices of the Company in Rio de Janeiro at noon on 25th July. A deposit of 300 milreis (about 33*l.* 15*s.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Openings for British Trade.

ARGENTINA.

Electric Vehicles in Buenos Ayres.

The United States Minister at Buenos Ayres reports that the German Transatlantic Electric Company of that city intend ordering 100 electric cabs by way of experiment, and they consider that the demand will be such as to warrant a considerable increase at an early date.

The vehicles will be mainly of light landaulette pattern, and generally light construction, with hood or top long enough to afford protection from the sun and rain.

Stress is laid upon the fact that there is an opening in Buenos Ayres for electric vehicles. The city, like the country, is absolutely flat; the streets, though narrow, are well paved with wood and asphalte; and, as there are no country roads suitable for touring, the use of motor carriages is confined to the city. Consequently the electric vehicle is coming into greater favour every day.

JAPAN.

Oil-Cake (Fish Manure).

In a recent report the Canadian Commercial Agent at Yokohama (Mr. A. MacLean) states that it may interest the manufacturers of oil-cake (fish manure) to learn that the herring catch in Hokkaido, North Japan, is reported to show a decrease up to the end of April, which is expected to cause an advance in the price of that product. The scarcity is already said by the Press to be keenly felt, and the demand consequently active. The falling-off in the catch is about 20 per cent., as compared with last year, which was not an abundant one.

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION.

NEW ZEALAND.

International Exhibition at Christchurch, 1906-7.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Government Representative in London of the New Zealand International Exhibition (Mr. T. E. Donne), an official notice, with the rules and regulations, of the Exhibition, which is to be held at Christchurch from November, 1906, to April, 1907.

Applications for space may be lodged with the High Commissioner for New Zealand, Westminster Chambers, 13, Victoria Street, S.W.

Mr. Donne is advised that the question of granting free space for *bonâ-fide* exhibitors is under the consideration of the New Zealand Government.

The rules and regulations referred to may be consulted at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Oruro.—The British Vice-Consul at Oruro (Mr. J. Ramsay Smith), says in his recent report:—

"I do not think there can be any reasonable doubt that this country (Bolivia) is entering on an era of great commercial prosperity. The 4,000,000*l.* received under the treaties with Chile and with Brazil are to be spent on railways, opening up a great part of the country; the people are more interested in industrial occupations; and Bolivia can no longer be neglected as a market for British manufacturers, and as the richest country in the world in minerals of all kinds."

Mr. Smith further emphasises the value and importance of issuing catalogues, price lists, and pamphlets printed in Spanish, and, if possible, profusely illustrated, to bring before the notice of a very conservative people new articles and modern types of old household ones.

He goes on to say: "I frequently meet people, in a position to buy, who will not look at anything printed in English. It is really diverting to see how the American patent medicine makers have literally imposed their goods by means of picturesque and really attractive advertisement sheets and other contrivances almost played out in the Old World. The lower classes decorate their rooms with these sheets, and have them ever before them until the article which they propose to bring before the consumer literally becomes a by-word." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,388.)

Quezaltenango (Guatemala).—In the opinion of H.M. Consul at Quezaltenango (Mr. C. Fleischmann) the outlook for trade during 1905 is very poor in that district of Guatemala, and manufacturers or exporters should be very careful not to sell otherwise than on a cash basis, as there are only very few firms of really good standing left there. Trade has passed more and more into the hands of merchants of Guatemala City, whence many retailers obtain their goods. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,400.)

Bulgaria.—The "Journal des Tarifs et Traités de Commerce" (Paris) states that the Philippopolis Chamber of Commerce and Industry have issued a circular announcing their intention to undertake the formation of a collection of illustrated catalogues, price lists, &c., issued by foreign manufacturers of machinery, tools and appliances, used in home industries, trades, manufactures, agricultural works, &c. This collection is being formed in view of the numerous demands for publications of this nature which are received by the Chamber.

Pensacola (Fla.).—The British Vice-Consul at Pensacola (Mr. F. Bonar) says in his report for 1904, that the remarks made by him in previous reports respecting British commercial travellers visiting that port have received no attention whatever in the

British Trade Abroad.

United Kingdom, but foreign firms in France, Germany and other countries have taken advantage of the suggestions, and have made a remunerative business there.

Mr. Bonar mentions for the information of British correspondents that the postal regulations of the United States require the name of the State in which a town is situated to be given with the address, viz., Pensacola, Florida, or "Fla"; Washington, D.C., &c., and not "Pensacola" or "Washington," without mentioning the State. Several towns of the same name are found in different States, and letters addressed without the name of the State are delayed. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,401.)

Cadiz.—H.M. Consul at Cadiz (Mr. A. L. Keyser) remarks in his recent report "It is difficult to point actually towards openings for British trade in this Consular district. Trade is at present bad, and there has been considerable distress.

"Shipbuilding has ceased and the promised harbour works stand still. Long drought brought destruction to crops, while fruit has also failed. Horses and cattle lack food. In consequence there is no money for commercial progress. . . . .

"Agricultural machinery, shown at country fairs by agents conversant with the language, is always likely to attract purchasers.

"Those interested in mining are referred to the reports* from Seville, Huelva and Cordoba. In this direction there is room for development.

"The shortage of food for horses and cattle, owing to the drought, is a matter of immediate interest, since, unfortunately, its effects are likely to be of some duration.

"Questions daily reach this Consulate from traders wishing to push their goods in this country. In almost every case it is apparent that they would be welcomed by purchasers here, but it is necessary to qualify such replies by pointing out that the import duties would render it difficult for business to be transacted at a profit. . . . .

"It might be mentioned that there now seems a tendency for travellers to visit this part of Spain. In the wake of the tourist comes a demand for luxuries and conveniences, unthought of by the conservative inhabitants whose lives pass content in sunlit backwaters.

"Though questions can be answered fairly accurately, no written information compares with that gathered by personal inspection of the cities in which it is desired to trade. The South of Spain is full of possibilities for almost every branch of commercial expansion." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,414.)

* Foreign Office Annual Series, 3,414, obtainable from Messrs. Wyman & Son, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., at a cost of 2*d*.

TRADE OF CAPE COLONY.

With reference to the statement on p. 492 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 15th June, the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 26th May publishes statistics showing the value of the goods imported into and exported from Cape Colony during the four months ended 30th April, 1905, as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year, from which the following tables have been prepared:—

Imports into Cape Colony.*

Principal and other Articles.	Four Months ended 30th April.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Provisions of all kinds (*includes butter, cheese, chicory, coffee, meats, sugar, and tea*) ...	1,144,000	1,070,000
Metals and metal manufactures (*includes iron, lead, machinery, hardware, wire fencing, &c.*)	951,000	622,000
Corn and grain, &c. (*flour, maize, oats, wheat, and rice*)	581,000	535,000
Haberdashery	522,000	493,000
Cotton manufactures	280,000	333,000
Leather and leather manufactures (*includes boots and shoes, and saddlery and harness*)...	273,000	315,000
Wearing apparel (*includes hats*)	332,000	299,000
Wood, and manufactures of (*includes furniture*)	572,000	280,000
Stationery (*includes books*)	202,000	181,000
Woollen manufactures	139,000	126,000
Alcoholic beverages (*includes wine, beer, and spirits*)	128,000	115,000
Tobacco of all sorts	67,000	86,000
Drugs and chemicals	89,000	81,000
Soap and candles...	80,000	77,000
Carts and carriages (*includes bicycles*) ...	91,000	75,000
Animals, living	104,000	71,000
Pipes, iron and earthen	85,000	63,000
Agricultural implements	71,000	59,000
Oil, mineral	53,000	57,000
Coal, coke, and patent fuel	80,000	56,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes dynamite and blasting compound and powder*) ...	59,000	46,000
Confectionery (*includes jams*)	40,000	42,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	38,000	39,000
Earthen manufactures	41,000	33,000
Paints, varnish and turpentine...	32,000	33,000
Bags, all sorts	22,000	33,000
Cement	29,000	31,000
Oilman stores (not edible)	23,000	24,000
Linen manufactures	15,000	19,000
All other articles of merchandise	1,237,000	921,000
Total merchandise ... £	7,380,000	6,215,000
Articles imported for the Colonial Government	733,000	179,000
Specie	30,000	17,000
Grand total, imports ... £	8,143,000	6,411,000

NOTE.—The official figures of imports into Cape Colony are exclusive of imports by the Imperial Government, but it may be noted that supplies for the Army are still partly contracted for on the spot.

* Exclusive of imports of diamonds and gold from States outside the Colony:—5,024,000*l.* during the first four months of 1904, and 6,689,000*l.* during the same period of 1905.

Trade of Cape Colony (continued).

Exports from Cape Colony.

Principal and other Articles.	Four Months ended 30th April.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Gold (raw)	4,945,000	6,411,000
Diamonds	1,605,000	1,668,000
Wool (washed, scoured, and in the grease) ...	796,000	596,000
Ostrich feathers	340,000	350,000
Copper ore	177,000	189,000
Hides and skins	139,000	165,000
Hair, Angora	64,000	36,000
All other articles of merchandise	75,000	711,000
Total merchandise ... £	8,141,000	10,126,000
Imported goods, re-exported	127,000	154,000
Specie	819,000	14,000
Grand total, exports ... £	9,087,000	10,294,000

TRADE OF THE CONGO FREE STATE.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, from H.M. Minister at Brussels (Sir Constantine Phipps, K.C.M.G., C.B.), a review of the official trade statistics for 1904 of the Congo Free State, from which the following particulars are taken.

Total Value of Imports and Exports.

Year.	Imports.	Exports (of Congo State Produce).
	£	£
1900	988,000	1,900,000
1901	924,000	2,020,000
1902	723,000	2,002,000
1903	835,000	2,180,000
1904	933,000	2,070,000

It will be noted that there is a decrease in the exports (at the rate of 5 per cent.) of over 100,000*l.*, and an increase in imports (at the rate of 11·7 per cent.) of nearly 100,000*l.*

As regards the **exports** from the Congo State itself, that of copal, cocoa, palm oil, and coffee shows an appreciable increase, while there is a rather notable decrease of export of rubber and of ivory amounting to over 1,000,000 kilogrammes in the former and 18,000 kilogrammes in the latter case. The entire exportation of Congo State rubber was 4,831,000 kilogrammes, of which nearly 4,815,000 went, in the first instance, to Belgium.

TRADE OF THE TRANSVAAL.

With reference to the statement on pp. 352-3 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 25th May, the following tables, showing the value of the principal and other articles imported into and exported from the Transvaal during the quarter ended 31st March, 1905, as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year, have been compiled from official figures published in the "Transvaal Government Gazette" of 26th May:—

Imports.

Articles of Merchandise.	Quarter ended 31st March.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Metals and manufactures of (*includes agricultural implements, hardware, iron and steel manufactures, machinery, wire rope, &c.*)	710,000	638,000
Provisions, exclusive of corn and dairy products (*includes coffee, chicory, biscuits, meats, fresh and preserved, fish, fresh and preserved, jams, sugar, tea, vegetables, fruits, condiments, salt, &c.*) ...	570,000	565,000
Apparel, haberdashery, &c. (*includes hats*)	410,000	377,000
Corn and grain (*includes flour, meal and rice*) ...	285,000	313,000
Wood and manufactures (*includes furniture*)	233,000	215,000
Live animals	97,000	154,000
Drugs and chemicals	104,000	149,000
Dairy products (*includes butter and butterine, eggs, cheese, preserved milk, &c.*)	150,000	146,000
Leather and manufactures (*includes saddlery and boots and shoes*)	128,000	129,000
Beverages (*includes ale, spirits, wine and mineral waters*)	104,000	96,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes dynamite and other explosives*)	47,000	90,000
Cotton manufactures	52,000	76,000
Stationery and paper (*includes wall paper and books*)	71,000	75,000
Vehicles (*includes cycles and accessories*)	83,000	74,000
Groceries and oilmen's stores (*includes oils, paints, turpentine and varnish*)	80,000	73,000
Soap and candles	56,000	65,000
Tobacco, raw and manufactured (*includes cigars and cigarettes*)	46,000	56,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	39,000	51,000
Electric cable wire and fittings	19,000	46,000
Tramway material...	25,000	37,000
Woollen manufactures	30,000	32,000
Instruments, musical and other	21,000	19,000
Glass and glassware	23,000	17,000
Cocoa, chocolate, and confectionery	14,000	17,000
Cement and lime	7,000	16,000
Earthenware and crockery	13,000	12,000
Bags (not leather or canvas)	9,000	11,000
Fuse	8,000	11,000
Toys and sporting goods	8,000	10,000
Coal, coke and patent fuel	6,000	10,000
Seeds, trees and plants	16,000	8,000
Carpets	5,000	5,000
Photographic material	5,000	4,000
Tobacconist ware	5,000	4,000
Linen manufactures	2,000	2,000
Other articles of merchandise	46,000	60,000
Total... ... ... £	3,527,000	3,663,000

Trade of the Transvaal (continued).

Of the total value of merchandise imported into the Transvaal during the quarter ended 31st March, 1905, 1,235,000*l.* worth were sent *viâ* Cape Colony, 1,610,000*l.* worth *viâ* Natal, and 818,000*l.* worth *viâ* Delagoa Bay.

NOTE.—The above figures do not include free importations for Local Government or Military Stores, or Railway Material imported as "Government Stores."

Exports.

Articles.	Quarter ended 31st March.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Gold	3,766,000	4,812,000
Diamonds	137,000	231,000
Animals, living	29,000	130,000
Wool	26,000	28,000
Coal	34,000	25,000
Tobacco of all kinds	14,000	15,000
Machinery	14,000	14,000
Haberdashery and millinery	7,000	11,000
Skins, hides, and horns	4,000	10,000
Vehicles (*includes cycles and accessories*)	7,000	8,000
Corn and grain	7,000	1,000
Other articles	41,000	85,000
Total ... ... £	4,086,000	5,370,000

ISTHMIAN CANAL COMMISSION.

From communications received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from H.M. Consul at Panama (Mr. C. C. Mallet, C.M.G.) it appears that the recent announcement to the effect that the Isthmian Canal Commission will purchase supplies in any market was intended to impress upon American manufacturers that they must quote their *export* prices, and not the prices they would charge to undertakings located in the United States, in respect of supplies for the Panama Canal.

It seems probable that the Panama Commission will purchase the bulk of the goods they require in America if the prices at all approximate those asked abroad, and a preference of as much as 20 per cent. in favour of American manufactures has been mentioned as likely.

The Chairman of the Canal Commission (Mr. Shonts), who is in complete charge of the purchase and delivery of all material and supplies, will reside mainly in the United States, and will have his office in the Mills Building, 17th Street, Washington, D.C., its formal designation being "Isthmian Canal Affairs, Office of Administration."

With regard to the rates of the Panama railway for through traffic, Mr. Mallet states that no change is likely to take place

until after July 1st, when the exclusive contract with the American Pacific Mail Steamship Company will have expired.

He says that the policy of the Federal Government in relation to the Panama transit trade has been authoritatively outlined, and that in accordance with such policy it is intended to charge nothing more than reasonable rates by the Panama railway, and to permit no discrimination against, or in favour of, any of the connecting steamship lines. The three steamships owned by the Panama Railway Company which ply between New York and Colon will continue to run, with the object of preventing a combination to raise rates.

It is further stated that the United States Government do not expect to run a connecting line between Panama and San Francisco, and that every effort will be made to break up monopolistic compacts.

Mr. Mallet reports that amongst improvements contemplated, the Panama railway is to be double-tracked, and docking facilities at both ends improved and enlarged to meet the requirements of increased traffic. Schools are to be built, and official residences for the Governor and Staff at Ancon, and also for heads of departments, as well as wooden residences for employees, will be erected.

The work of paving the streets of the city of Panama is to be commenced in July.

FOREIGN TRADE AND SHIPPING OF CHINA IN 1904.

The following article on the foreign trade and shipping of China in 1904 is based on the "Report on the Trade of China, and Abstract of Statistics" for 1904, recently published by order of the Inspector-General of the Chinese Imperial Customs, and is in continuation of the article published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd, 9th, and 16th June, 1904:—

[NOTE.—The average value of the Haikwan tael is stated to have been 2*s.* $7\frac{2}{3}$*d.* in 1903 and 2*s.* $10\frac{2}{5}$*d.* in 1904. Picul = $133\frac{1}{3}$ lbs. av. or 3 piculs = 400 lbs.]

I.—General.

The war appears to have been of minor importance among the conditions affecting the trade of China during the year. A large area of production and consumption was cut off, and trade was hampered, to some extent, but the direct effect was not clearly perceptible. Indirectly, of course, some effect was produced. The monetary stringency existing since 1900 and well marked at the end of 1903, became more pronounced as the war went on, and must be held accountable for some, at least, of the stagnation prevalent during 1904. Among imports, textiles (a third of the whole) alone show no expansion, a fact due directly to the inflated cost of the raw material. These various causes have had their influence in producing the depression which characterised certainly the first nine months of the year, but among all other causes the

fluctuations in exchange must not be lost sight of. Trade can adjust itself to a low exchange or to a high exchange, or even to a shifting exchange if the movement can be foreseen; but a state of things which introduces the element of gambling into the business of every day, which makes it impossible for a merchant to estimate the amount in one currency which will give him a profit in another, and which may even make it doubtful if a profit actually realised in one currency can be safely landed in another, all this increases the cost of trading by enforcing the wisdom of large margins, and by so much, acts as a restraint on trade. It is high time that all interested in the prosperity of the trade of China used such influence as they possess to further any method of reform which will ensure stability of exchange.

The negotiation of the commercial treaties pursues its leisurely course. In 1902 was concluded the British treaty, and those with Japan and the United States of America in 1903; to these has now to be added that with Portugal, signed in 1904, but not yet ratified. Two new treaty ports were opened during the year 1904 —Kongmoon, in Kwangtung, on the 7th March, and Changsha, in Hunan, on the 1st July.

The values of the articles entering into the foreign trade of China have during 1904, for the first time uniformly, been settled on the basis of the cost of the goods at the moment they enter into China's international exchange—the c.i.f. value in the case of imports and the f.o.b. value for exports. This breaks the continuity of the tables of value, but it was thought better to make the break and have one value for all statistical purposes, than to continue the practice of having one system of valuation for the tables of merchandise and another for statistical use found in the summary at the end of each year's report on the trade of the Empire. The value given to the total trade of the year, Hk. tls. 583,547,291, is 8 per cent. more than the value for 1903 given in the tables and 7 per cent. more than that given in the summary, the discrepancy being explainable by the fact that import values were at some ports already on a f.o.b. basis in 1903. The inclusion of the heading "Trade by junk not otherwise recorded" brings within the purview of the Imperial Maritime Customs practically the whole foreign trade of China, excepting some small quantities arriving at or leaving a few unimportant points on the coast.

II.—Imports.

The net **imports** were valued at Hk. tls. 344,060,608, an increase of 5 per cent. over 1903. Up to a few years ago the recorded values were based on market price; of recent years some ports gave market price and others c.i.f. value; but for 1904 the value of each article of trade is the value at moment of landing (the c.i.f. value). Comparison is therefore to be made with the total, Hk. tls. 310,453,428, which appears in the summary at the close of the report for 1903—and the increase is actually 11 per cent.

Foreign Trade and Shipping of China in 1904.

Cotton manufactures were imported in smaller quantities, speaking generally, than in 1903. Plain fabrics (shirtings, sheetings, T-cloths, drills, and jeans) had declined from 19,015,300 pieces in 1902 to 13,835,506 pieces in 1903, and in 1904 fell further to 12,949,964 pieces. Of these plain fabrics, English mills supplied 7,841,605 pieces in 1903 and 8,109,020 pieces in 1904, thus showing a prompt seizing of the opportunity to replenish the market; American mills supplied 4,782,141 pieces in 1903 (already a much reduced output) and 3,703,548 pieces in 1904, a reduction explainable partly by the necessity of first supplying the American market, partly by the distance from the China market, and partly because the American mills are most affected by any reduction in demand from Manchuria; the Japanese mills supplied 730,723 pieces in 1903 and 607,312 pieces in 1904, a reduction the more certainly attributable to the effects of the war and the resulting high cost of credits. Fancy makes of cotton goods, articles of luxury the demand for which increases in time of prosperous trade and in the price of which the raw material counts for a smaller proportion, increased in value from Hk. tls. 19,320,246 in 1903 to Hk. tls. 24,162,260 in 1904. Chintzes, prints, and Turkey reds were markedly less in quantity and value, but there was a considerable development in cotton imitations of superior fabrics, such as Italians, lastings, Spanish stripes, flannel, &c. **Cotton yarn** fell from 2,738,448 piculs in 1903 to 2,280,878 piculs in 1904, the proportion to the total value of all cotton manufactures of this semi-finished product having fallen from 52 per cent. in 1903 to 48 per cent in 1904. Yarn reached record prices during the year, and the best makes of the Japanese mills realised fully 10 per cent. higher prices than Indian spinnings; Indian yarn was 252,128 piculs less, and Japanese 192,677 piculs less, than in 1903. Taking the average of the three years 1902-4, a consumption of 2,489,099 piculs is obtained; the output of the mills in China is estimated at 750,000 piculs, of which about two-thirds come from those at Shanghai and one-third from those elsewhere; and this gives a total of about 3,240,000 piculs of machine-spun cotton yarn consumed by the people of China.

Woollens call for no comment; their value remains at about 4 million taels, the value of the import of 40 years ago. Those who can afford woollens prefer silks and furs, and the wearers of cotton-wadded garments and sheep skins cannot afford woollens.

Metals increased in value by over a third; the increase is observable all along the line, the only marked exception being steel. The exaggerated increase in copper (slabs, sheets, &c., from 90,997 to 273,910 piculs) and in spelter (from 1,090 to 14,326 piculs) is attributable to the demands of the Mints.

The import of **rice**, which in 1903 was less than a third of the 1902 importation, rose in 1904, by 20 per cent., to 3,356,830 piculs; with the excellent crops in Kwangtung in 1903 and 1904,

it may be assumed that its industrial urban population will always call for foreign supplies. **Rice bran** was also imported to the amount of 2,311,658 piculs.

Cigars and **cigarettes** increased in value from 2½ to 3¼ million taels; while **household stores** and **wine, beer** and **spirits** maintained the value of 1903.

Flour comes for the most part from Hongkong, but in bags with the imprint of American flouring mills; the quantity increased from 766,324 to 937,946 piculs.

Under **dyes** the only point to attract attention is the increase in the import of artificial indigo, from 11,818 to 18,819 piculs; vegetable indigo, a Chinese product made foreign by passing through Hongkong, also increased from 70,814 to 78,447 piculs. Other synthetic dyes maintained 1903 figures.

Kerosene oil continues to show increased imports, the total quantity having risen from 84,998,335 gallons in 1903 to the enormous figure of 156,891,235 gallons in 1904, an increase of 84 per cent.; to the total import of the two years 1903 and 1904 American oil contributed 37 and 43 per cent., Russian 16 and 21 per cent., and Sumatra 47 and 35 per cent. respectively. Borneo oil, under that name, is much reduced, and California oil has made its first appearance.

Sugar of all kinds increased from 3,202,980 piculs in 1903 to 3,747,563 piculs.

Railway plant was less, at Hk. tls. 6,046,459 in value, and other **machinery** increased in value, by a fourth, to Hk. tls. 2,660,039.

III.—Exports.

The total value of exports was Hk. tls. 239,486,683, an increase of 11 per cent. over 1903. As has been noted, this is the value f.o.b., whereas 1903 values were based on the market price. During the past year special efforts were made at Shanghai—the port at which, whether as export or as re-export, is shipped over half the native produce leaving China—to obtain the true values from the ports of original shipment. The value given above is to be compared with that given in the summary at the end of the report for 1903, viz., Hk. tls. 236,205,162.

In the enumeration of exports, **Tea** is still given first place, on account of its past importance. The total shipments of all kinds amounted to 1,451,249 piculs, a decrease of 226,281 piculs. Black leaf shows no diminution; green leaf fell off 60,474 piculs, fairly distributed over all the consuming markets; and brick tea, black and green together, accounts for the rest of the reduction, being less by 170,763 piculs. The lessened export of brick tea left a larger quantity of dust available for shipment. Large shipments of green tea in the two previous years lessened the demand during the past year; and the reduction in the export of brick tea is explainable by the difficulties of transport to the consuming area in Asiatic Russia.

(*To be continued.*)

PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Proposed Reductions of Import Duties.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Argentine Minister of Finance has presented to the Congress a Bill to abolish the surtax of two per cent. *ad valorem* which is at present leviable on all articles which, on importation into the Republic, are subjected to a Tariff duty of ten per cent. or more.

The same Bill proposes the reduction of the Customs duties on a number of articles, as shown in the following statements:—

I.—*Ad valorem* Duties.

Articles.	Present Duty (Per cent. on Official Valuation).	Proposed Duty (Per cent. on Official Valuation).
Ready-made clothing of silk, wool, cotton, mixed, &c. ...	50	40
Ready-made shirts, ties, corsets, underlinen, &c.	50	40
Trunks, portmanteaux, bags	50	40
Boots	50	40
Mosaic	50	40
Furniture	50	40
Hats and caps of silk, wool, cotton, or straw; and ladies' hats	50	40
Stockings of cotton, wool, silk	45	40
Blankets of wool, or of wool and cotton mixed	40	35
Underclothing of wool or cotton	40	35
Screws, bolts, nuts	40	35
Tissues of wool, or of wool and cotton mixed	35	30
Anhydrous ammonia	10	5
Machines (certain kinds)	10	5
Lead, in pigs or sheets	10	5
Tin, in ingots or sheets	10	5
Watches of metal, including silver	25	5

II.—Specific Duties.

Articles.	Unit.	Present Duty.	Proposed Duty.
		Dols. gold	Dols. gold
Vegetable oils, not otherwise mentioned ...	Kilog.	0·10	0·08
Linseed oil	,,	0·10	0·08
Cocoanut and palm oil	,,	0·04	0·03
Starch	,,	0·08	0·06
Rice	,,	0·02	0·02 or 0·01½
Vermicelli, macaroni, &c.	,,	0·07	0·04
Sardines	,,	0·07	0·05
Yerba tea (prepared)	,,	0·04	0·02½
,, (unprepared)	,,	0·01½	
Beer, in casks	Litre	0·09	0·08
,, in bottle	Bottle	0·12	0·10
Wooden matches	Kilog.	0·40	0·25
Kerosene	Litre	0·03	0·02
Paper, common white, for newspapers	Kilog.	0·02½	0·02
,, coloured, for packing	,,	0·10	0·09
,, writing	,,	0·05	0·04
French nails	,,	0·02½	0·02
Collars of cotton or of linen	Doz.	1·25	1·00
Cuffs of cotton or of linen	Doz. pairs	2·00	1·50
Hats of woollen felt	Each	0·35	0·30

H.M. Minister at Buenos Aires, in forwarding this information, states that the above changes, if sanctioned by Congress, will presumably take effect from 1st January, 1906.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Drawback of Duty on Rope and Cordage.

A copy of the "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for 29th April last has been received, notifying that, in accordance with the provisions of Customs Regulation No. 131, a drawback of duty may be allowed on rope and cordage used in the manufacture of articles within the Commonwealth upon the exportation of such manufactured articles therefrom:—Provided, however, that before drawback be allowed the Collector shall be satisfied that the drawback claimed is properly due; also that he may, if he deems it necessary, require the manufacture of the article, in which rope or cordage is used, to take place under the supervision of an officer.

NEW ZEALAND.

Customs Decisions.

A copy of the "New Zealand Gazette" for 11th May last has been received, containing an Order (No. 774) which was issued by the Commissioner of Trade and Customs on 10th May, 1905, giving Customs Decisions respecting the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into New Zealand.

The following are the principal decisions given:—

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Duty.
Graining-roller, Bellamy's patent—	
As artificers' tools	Free
Jelly bags—	
As druggists' sundries, n.o.e....	15 % *ad val.*
Marble tiles, dressed on upper surface—	
As marble, dressed or polished	25 % "
Pea-nut roaster—	
As manufactures, n.o.e., of metal	20 % "
Springs, trace, of wrought-iron, for harness—	
As manufactures, n.o.e., of metal	20 % "
Tabs, having on them the name of a New Zealand manufacturer, for mattresses or clothing	Free
Time-detector, electric—	
As machinery, n.o.e.	20 % *ad val.*
Tinsel, white, and gold, used in the manufacture of artificial flies—	
As n.o.e.	Free

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

Drawback of Duty on Gunny Bags, &c.

A copy of the "British Central Africa Gazette," for April 29th last has been received containing a Proclamation issued at Zomba on 29th April, 1905, and notifying that a drawback will be allowed of 10 per cent. *ad valorem* import duty paid on gunny bags, gunny cloth, sacking and hooping, and other materials imported into the Protectorate and used for packing cotton or other goods the produce of the Protectorate, for export, on proof being produced to the Director of Customs that such materials, have been *bonâ fide* so used, and have left the Protectorate.

The Proclamation further states that retrospective effect will be given from 1st March, 1905.

MAURITIUS.

Regulations affecting Importation of Cattle from Madagascar.

With reference to a notice in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 16th November, 1904, respecting the prohibition, under Proclamation 36 of 1904, of the importation of cattle, &c., from certain parts of Madagascar into Mauritius, the Board of Trade have now received a copy of a further Proclamation (No. 17 of 1905), dated 14th April, 1905, repealing Proclamation 36 of 1904, and notifying that the importation of bovines from all places situated south of a line extending from Fort Dauphin to Tulear, in the south of Madagascar, into the Colony, may be allowed on condition that such animals before embarkation shall be subject to the tuberculin test, and shall be accompanied by a certificate from a duly qualified official testifying to their freedom from disease.

The introduction of litter and manure from the parts of Madagascar above referred to is prohibited, except the litter and manure of bovines allowed to be landed under the present Proclamation.

EGYPT.

Importation of Cattle from certain Countries.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 10th June contains a Decision of the *Conseil Sanitaire, Maritime et Quarantenaire,* relating to the disembarkation and slaughter of cattle imported into Egypt from Asia Minor, Russia, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Roumania, and other countries where the presence of cattle disease is recognised or suspected.

The text of this Decision may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SWITZERLAND.

Date of Operation of New Tariff.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a Decree of the Swiss Federal Council, dated the 4th April, 1905, providing that the new Swiss General Tariff of the 10th October, 1902, as modified by the Commercial Treaties concluded between Switzerland and other States, is to come into force on 1st January, 1906.

The Federal Council reserves to itself the right to apply any of the new General Tariff duties, should circumstances require it, before the 1st January, 1906.

SPAIN.

Prolongation of Customs Regime Established by Swiss-Spanish Commercial Treaty.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 555 of the "Journal" for the 22nd September, 1904, relative to the denunciation of the Swiss-Spanish Commercial Treaty of the 13th July, 1892, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Bill which has been laid before the Cortes, authorising the Spanish Government to continue to apply, until the 1st March, 1906, if necessary, the reduced import duties established in Tariff B of the above-mentioned Commercial Treaty to the products of nations which accord most-favoured-nation treatment to Spanish products.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Customs Decisions.

The following is the substance of some Decisions affecting the application of the United States Customs Tariff, which have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington :—

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.		
			Dols.	Cts.
Dead rabbits	274 & Sec. 7	Lb.	0	02
Toy watch chains.—Small brass chains costing less than 2 cents each, intended for the amusement of children, and imported attached to or separate from toy watches ; dutiable as "toys"	418	35 % *ad val.*		
Lithographic prints on gelatin.—Thin sheets of gelatin cut in the form of fish, human figures, &c., and having printed thereon by lithographic process advertisements of business firms ; dutiable as lithographic prints ... ... [This modifies a Decision reported at p. 602 of the "Journal" for the 29th September, 1904.]	400	Lb.	0	20

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of duty.
		Dols. Cts.
Dyers' sticks made of bamboo, the ends rounded and the joints smoothed	700	Free
Silk veilings.—Woven goods, of light texture, composed of silk, 45 centimetres in width, having closely woven borders of the same colour as the body of the fabric, which are especially designed and adapted for use as veilings or in making veils, used chiefly for that purpose and known commercially as "chiffon veils," or "veilings"; dutiable as "veilings"	390	60 % *ad val.*
Silk chiffons.—Woven fabrics in the piece, of light texture, composed of silk, 54 centimetres in width, having borders or selvages of the same colour as the body of the fabric, which are generally known in trade as "silk chiffon" or "mousseline," or "mousseline soie," or "muslin"; dutiable as woven silk fabrics in the piece	387	Various rates according to weight, condition, &c.
Zinc ore free from sulphur in its natural state and comprising both carbonates and silicates of zinc; as calamine	514	Free
Cotton knitted shawls; dutiable as cotton wearing apparel	314	50 % *ad val.*
Button material.—Manufactures of cloth, woven or made in patterns of such size, shape, or form, or cut in such manner as to be fit for buttons exclusively, which have been embroidered by hand or machinery	339	60 % „
Cotton cloth with silk figures.—Cotton cloth containing figures produced by extra threads of silk; dutiable as cloth composed of cotton and silk, of which cotton is the component material of chief value	311	sq. yd. 0 08 and 30 % *ad val.*
Ground pepper shells or cuticle.—A residuum from the process of decorticating the pepper berry, in the form of a fine powder, which, without further grinding, is used to adulterate ground pepper; dutiable under the provision for "spices not specially provided for"	287	Lb. 0 03
Nickel or *nickel alloy* in which nickel is the component material of chief value, in pieces about 7 feet in length, cut from wide sheets; dutiable as sheet nickel...	185	„ 0 06
Vegetable tracing paper; dutiable as paper not otherwise provided for	402	25 % *ad val.*
Orchil extract, a sulphonated colouring matter produced from orchil or orchil liquid, which consists of a dark green substance in the form of irregular particles with a metallic lustre	58	30 „ „
Gelatin spangles, strung, used in making trimmings and ornaments for wearing apparel ...	408	60 „ „

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Tools of trade to be entitled to free entry under paragraph 645 of the Tariff must arrive in this country on the same vessel as the person owning them and claiming the privilege.

Strawboard.—(1) Unlined strawboard:—(i.) A variety made by pasting or causing to adhere together two or more separate sheets of strawboard, after each sheet has been finished in the rollers, is dutiable under paragraph 407, as a "manufacture of paper not specially provided for," at the rate of 35 per cent. *ad valorem.*

(ii.) A variety consisting of single sheets of strawboard made by one rolling of the pulp through the rollers, is dutiable as "paper not specially provided for," under paragraph 402 of the Tariff, at the rate of 25 per cent. *ad valorem.*

(2.) Lined strawboard having a white newspaper lining:—(i.) A variety made by pasting or causing to adhere together two or more separate sheets of strawboard, after each sheet has been finished in the rollers, and by pasting thereon the lining, is dutiable under paragraph 407, as a "manufacture of paper not specially provided for," at the rate of 35 per cent. *ad valorem.*

(ii.) A variety made by a process called "mill lining" or "pulp lining," consisting of a single sheet of strawboard upon which the lining is placed at the time of manufacture of the board, is dutiable under paragraph 402 as "paper not specially provided for," at the rate of 25 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Fresh frozen smelts packed and imported in boxes, each box containing less than one-half barrel, are dutiable at the rate of 30 per cent. *ad valorem*, under paragraph 258 of the Tariff.

Hydraulic hose composed of countable cotton cloth is dutiable as a countable cotton cloth under paragraph 305 of the Tariff.

Imports from Luxemburg.—Goods imported from the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg are entitled to benefit under the Reciprocity Convention between the United States and Germany.

"Preserved" fruits.—The word "preserved," as used in paragraphs 267 and 627 of the Tariff, has no technical or commercial meaning different from its ordinary signification, namely, to put in a condition of preservation so as to resist fermentation or decay.

Orange peel in brine is dutiable as "orange peel preserved" at the rate of 2 cents per lb. under paragraph 267.

Gauge of whisky.—Imported whisky which has been entered in bond for warehouse is properly assessable for duty under paragraph 289 of the Tariff, on the quantity of the whisky as ascertained at the time of entry in bond, and not upon the quantity as shown by the gauge of the whisky at the time of the withdrawal from bond.

Clerical error—Correction after liquidation.—Where entry of certain merchandise is inadvertently made on an invoice which, through

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

clerical error, states the value incorrectly in that it fails to show that the value given includes certain non-dutiable charges, this resulting in the assessment of a higher rate of duty than would otherwise be applicable, and the first notice of the error received by the importer is after the liquidation of the entry at the increased rate, the real value of the merchandise may be shown and the rate of duty corrected accordingly.

Metal-thread fabrics in the piece are dutiable as "other articles made wholly or in chief value of metal threads," under paragraph 179 of the Tariff, at the rate of 60 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Wool on the skin—Mocha sheepskins.—Skins of the white-head mocha sheep, having a growth a certain percentage of which is wool of a low order, are dutiable at the rate of 3 cents per lb. under paragraph 360 of the Tariff relating to "wools on the skin."

BOLIVIA—CHILE.

Importation into Bolivia *viâ* Chile.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Decree recently issued by the Chilean Ministry of Finance, establishing the procedure to be adopted for the importation of foreign merchandise into Bolivia *viâ* Chilean territory, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty recently concluded between the two countries.*

The despatch of foreign merchandise for Bolivia is to be carried out in the Custom-house of Arica. The Customs authorities at Arica are, on receipt of promissory notes at 40 days for the amount of the duties guaranteed, to make out and sign way-bills, and are to give the Bolivian Customs Agency facilities for carrying out the formalities required by the Bolivian Government. The merchandise will then be transported by cartroad under seal through Corocoro and La Paz to the Custom-house at La Portada where it will be examined. The way-bills, accompanied by counter receipts from the interior Bolivian Custom-houses proving that the importation has been effected, will be returned to Arica; and, provided that these documents are found to be in regular form and are presented within the period of 40 days, the promissory notes will then be cancelled; otherwise the payment of the amount of the promissory notes will be exacted.

* See "Board of Trade Journal" for the 4th May, pp. 212–3.

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

CAPE COLONY.

Railway Earnings.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received a report from their correspondent at Cape Town (Mr. E. J. Cattell), in the course of which he states that the gross average weekly earnings of the Cape Government Railways have fluctuated as follows (January to May in each year):—

	£	Miles open.
1898	76,274	1,975
1899	74,173	1,990
1903	138,615	—
1904	107,103	2,417
1905	95,290	2,594

RUSSIA.

Amour Railway Projects.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) states on the authority of the official "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" of St. Petersburg that the Commission on New Railways were to consider, on 7th/20th June, certain proposals made with reference to the construction of a railway along the Shilka and Amour, from Sretensk to Khabarovsk; likewise another project for the building of a line from Sretensk to Khabarovsk, with a branch line to Blagoviestchensk; and also a further proposal for the construction of a line between these two towns.

GERMANY.

Extension of Port of Bremen.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office, from the Commercial Attaché to H.M. Embassy at Berlin (Mr. Wm. S. H. Gastrell) reporting that the Prussian Landtag has recently sanctioned certain frontier alterations in order to increase the accommodation of Bremen harbour. This will enable the North German Lloyd Company to obtain the extensions they require for their ships, and also a new dry dock. The extensions will cost some 2,350,000*l.*, and 375,000*l.* are to be spent on the new dry dock.

Efforts to Improve Freight Rates.

H.M. Consul-General at Hamburg (Sir William Ward, C.V.O.), in his recently published Report (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,393), refers to the efforts made by German shipowners to improve freight rates, and to the formation of an international combination of owners of sailing vessels, which, it is stated, now comprises 80 per cent. of all British, German and French owners of sea-going sailing ships, who have improved their position by fixing the minimum rates of freight acceptable by them.

Shipping and Transport.

In this connection, a communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from Sir William Ward, reporting that a meeting of the Committee of the "Sailing Ships International Union" took place recently at Hamburg, at which representatives from Glasgow, London, Greenock, Nantes, Dunkirk, Bremen and Hamburg were present. It was stated at the meeting that more than 800 sailing vessels now belong to the Union, which represent altogether about 1½ million register tons of shipping. The only important resolution passed at the meeting was that an abatement of the reduction for direct ports to 9*d.* instead of 1*s.* 3*d.*, as hitherto fixed, is to come into force on and after the 1st September next.

DUTCH EAST INDIES.

Pilotage and Wharfage Charges at Macassar.

The British Vice-Consul at Macassar (Mr. S. P. Stephens) reports that since February last pilots have been stationed at that port; the fees are:—2 fl. 50 c. (4*s.* 2*d.*) for ships not exceeding 500 cubic metres* net tonnage, 5 fl. (8*s.* 4*d.*) for ships not exceeding 1,000 cubic metres net tonnage. 25 fl. (41*s.* 8*d.*) per 24 hours is the wharfage charge for all ships. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,403.)

* 2·83 cubic metres = 1 ton.

SPAIN.

Suggested Reduction in Railway Rates for Foodstuffs and Fodder.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 19th June contains a Royal Order urging the Spanish Railway Companies to effect reductions, either temporary or permanent, in the rates for the transport of the principal foodstuffs and of fodder. This Order is issued with a view to obtaining for consumers in all parts of Spain the benefit of the recent reductions in duties on wheat and flour (see p. 208 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 4th May), and of certain reductions in duties on barley and oats, and of the abolition of duties on fodder provided for in a Law which will shortly be submitted to the Cortes.

ITALY.

State Administration of Railways.

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" of 24th June contains a Decree establishing provisions for the appointment of a staff to work the railways which will be taken over by the State on 1st July, in accordance with the Law of 22nd April, 1905 (summarised on pp. 216-7 of "Board of Trade Journal" of 4th May).

The "Gazzetta," which contains particulars as to the headquarters of the various sections of the administrations, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Shipping and Transport.

VENEZUELA.

Re-opening of the Port of Cano Colorado.—Opening of New Ports.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Decree of the Venezuelan Government re-opening the Custom House at Cano Colorado, and providing for the establishment of Custom Houses at Barrancas and at Rio Caribe. The ports named will be opened for export trade and for the importation of articles for local consumption.

The jurisdiction of the port of Barrancas is to include the courses and banks of all the streams of the Orinoco delta, from the bifurcation of Cano Piacoa down to the mouths of the Orinoco; while the port of Rio Caribe will extend from the bay of Carupano to the promontory of Paria.

CHINA.

Shipping at Newchwang.

H.M. Minister at Peking (Sir E. Satow, G.C.M.G.) reports that on the 28th March the port of Newchwang was officially declared open to navigation after the winter's closure by ice. An unusually large number of steamers have since entered; the greater bulk of their cargoes being supplies for the Japanese army in the shape of coal, oil, grain, wine, fuel, timber, &c. Export cargo is scarce on account of difficulties of transport from the interior.

COREA.

Railway Extension.

According to the report for 1904 of the Acting British Vice-Consul at Chemulpo (Mr. Harrington), the most important and interesting development of the year in Corea has been the rapid extension of the railway system throughout the country, one result of which will be greatly to stimulate trade by bringing the ports into easier communication with the interior.

At the end of 1903, besides the railway from Seoul to Chemulpo, only small sections of the Seoul-Fusan Railway at either end were completed, while the Seoul-Wiju line was represented merely by a few miles of embankments.

It was stipulated that the Seoul-Fusan railway should be open throughout its whole length by 1st January, 1905, and in fact by that date trains were running the whole distance. In a few places, however, incomplete tunnels and temporary bridges were employed, and probably the line will not be fully finished till the summer of 1905. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,407.)

MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

CANADA—BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Mineral Production in 1904.

The following figures showing the output of minerals, &c., in British Columbia for the year 1904 are taken from an advance proof of the report of the Minister of Mines. The figures for 1903 are added for purposes of comparison :—

—	1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		Dols.		Dols.
Gold, placer ... ozs.	53,021	1,060,000	55,765	1,115,000
,, lode ... ... ,,	232,831	4,813,000	222,042	4,590,000
Silver ... ... ,,	2,996,204	1,521,000	3,222,481	1,720,000
Copper ... ... lbs.	34,359,921	4,547,000	35,710,128	4,578,000
Lead ... ... ,,	18,089,283	690,000	36,646,244	1,422,000
Coal ... Tons, 2,240 lbs.	1,168,194	3,505,000	1,253,638	3,761,000
Coke... ,, ,,	165,543	828,000	334,102	1,192,000
Other materials	...	532,000	...	600,000
	—	17,496,000	—	18,978,000

GERMANY.

Consumption of Coal, &c.

The following table showing the consumption of coal, &c., in Germany during the years 1903-1904, is taken from the report of H.M. Consul-General at Berlin (Mr. P. Schwabach) :—

—	Quantity in 1,000 Metric Tons.							
	Bituminous Coal.		Lignite.		Coke.		Briquettes, &c.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
Production ...	116,664	120,694	45,965	48,500	11,509	12,331	10,476	11,413
Imports ...	6,767	7,299	7,962	7,669	433	550	85	125
Total ...	123,431	127,993	53,927	56,169	11,942	12,881	10,561	11,538
Exports ...	17,390	17,997	22	22	2,523	2,717	895	918
Consumption	106,041	109,996	53,905	56,147	9,419	10,164	9,666	10,620

(*Foreign Office, Annual Series,* 3,390.)

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

FRANCE—MADAGASCAR.

Gold Yield.

H.M. Consul at Antananarivo (Mr. T. P. Porter) reports that the yield of gold in Madagascar for the first three months of 1905 amounted to 20,833 ozs., being an increase of 3,569 ozs. on the corresponding period of 1904.

ITALY—SICILY.

Sulphur Industry.

H.M. Consul at Palermo (Mr. Sidney Churchill), in his recent report, remarks that for many years the sulphur mining industry of Sicily has been one of its most important sources of wealth. At the end of 1903 there existed no less than 685 mines, employing 30,818 individuals and showing an output of 3,428,691 tons of sulphur ore. During the last few years, owing to the short term still to run of the combination of the mine owners with the Anglo-Sicilian Sulphur Company, the sulphur mining industry has been passing through a crisis which is now approaching its culminating point, the contracts expiring on 31st July, 1906.

Mr. Churchill continues, "It is a little premature to speak of the future of the Sicilian sulphur industry, but a knowledge of the views of the local mine owners may be interesting. Two proposals are being ventilated; the first is a proposition for a combination by private agreement amongst local mine owners and the trade. The other scheme is that for a compulsory joint purse system, limiting the output."

The shipments of sulphur from Sicily during the year 1904 were 508,980 tons, and the stocks of sulphur remaining in Sicily on 31st December, 1904, according to the calculations of the Anglo-Sicilian sulphur company, were 370,606 tons.

Causes of Decreased Coal Import at Catania.

The British Vice-Consul at Catania (Mr. A. W. Elford) gives the quantity of coal imported into that port during the year 1904 as 91,051 tons, compared with 100,495 tons in 1903. Of the foregoing, 90,178 tons were from the United Kingdom, 295 tons from Sebenico (Dalmatia), 150 tons of foundry coke from Hamburg, 428 tons of gas coke from Malta. The decreased imports are ascribed by Mr. Elford to three causes:—(1) The considerable use of sansa, the exhausted refuse from the olive kernel, which is supplied by two oil factories at Catania, and is also imported in large quantities from Calabria, the price being about 6*s.* 6*d.* per ton delivered to buyers; it is free of town dues, whilst coal pays 3*s.* 2*d.* per ton. (2) The increased use of Downson gas engines using anthracite coal, and consequent decrease in consumption in comparison with steam engines. (3) The liquidation of a local shipping company whose three steamers always bunkered at the port. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,396.)

AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 24th June, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	31*s.* 7*d.*
Barley	23*s.* 9*d.*
Oats	18*s.* 10*d.*

For further particulars see p. 613.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 614, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 24th June, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

DUTCH EAST INDIES.

Tea Trade.

H.M. Consul at Batavia (Mr. D. D. Fraser) states in his recent report that the principal feature of the tea trade during the past year has been the establishment of a tea market in Batavia, three firms having started business, while several of the local houses contemplate taking up the trade.

The production has been increased by over 3,000,000 lbs., and a large area of new land has been laid out for tea culture with Assam seed, which insures a further increase of quantity to be disposed of in the near future. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,403.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 22nd June, 1905, was 94,923 (including 129 bales British West Indian and 100 bales British West African), and the number imported during the 25 weeks ended the 22nd June was 2,185,120 (including 2,997 bales British West Indian and 1,452 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 22nd June, 1905, 4,515 bales, and for the 25 weeks, 219,533.

For further details see p. 613.

Miscellaneous.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Trade in 1904.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, from the Treasurer and Collector of Customs at Belize (Mr. H. B. Walcott) copy of the official statistics of imports and exports of British Honduras during the year 1904, from which it appears that the value of the total imports (excluding bullion and specie) was 1,632,000*l.*, as compared with 1,522,000*l.* in 1903. The principal imports consisted of provisions, cotton goods, corn and grain, leather manufactures and metal manufactures. The exports in 1904 of Colonial produce were valued at 1,104,000*l.* as compared with 1,054,000*l.* in 1903, the chief items being timber, fruits and gum.

Of the total value of imports during the year 1904, the United Kingdom contributed 467,449 dols., British Colonies 6,621 dols., United States 991,613 dols., and other foreign countries 291,636 dols. As compared with the previous year, the value of the imports from the United Kingdom and British Colonies increased to the extent of 3,534 dols. and 4,029 dols. respectively, as against an increase from the United States of 53,199 dols., and a decrease from other foreign countries of 76,419 dols.

The United States appear to be supplying from year to year a larger proportion of articles which in former years were obtained principally from the United Kingdom, such as:—Cotton goods, drugs and chemicals, hardware and cutlery, tinned provisions and rope and twine. This is believed to be largely due to the frequent visits to the Colony of agents of manufacturing and other firms in the United States, and to their willingness to supply goods suitable to local demands.

Trade with Canada and other British Colonies is still very small owing to the want of direct communication, the consequence being that the Colony obtains from the United States the whole of its food supply, which might be furnished to a large extent by Canada.

RUSSIA.

Law governing Purchase of Land in the Caucasus.

In view of the litigation to which the purchase, by foreigners, of land in the Caucasus has given rise, and the many applications for information made in this connection to Consular Officers, H.M. Consul at Rostov-on-Don (Mr. A. F. H. Medhurst) has forwarded to the Foreign Office a translation of the law concerning this question, which all British subjects desirous of acquiring land in that part of Russia are invited to study previous to purchasing, or, what is more common, previous to accepting land as a guarantee for a loan.

Miscellaneous.

A translation of the law may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

BELGIUM.

Proposed Exceptions to Law prohibiting Sale, &c., of Absinthe.

H.M. Minister at Brussels (Sir C. Phipps, K.C.M.G., C.B.) reports with reference to the law recently passed by the Belgian Chamber interdicting the production, transport, and the sale of absinthe, that the Senate has found it necessary to correct the terms of this enactment, and its committee of agriculture has made a proposal which, whilst interdicting similarly absinthe or any other liqueur containing essence of absinthe, makes an exception in favour of Chartreuse, Benedictine, Trappistine, bitters and other analogous liqueurs which do not contain more than one gramme of essence of any description per litre. The prohibition would not be made applicable to aromatized wines such as vermouth.

PORTUGAL—AZORES.

Certificate of Nationality required by Foreigners.

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has received a despatch, dated the 16th May, 1905, from H.M. Consul at St. Michael's (Mr. W. Read), stating that the Governor of the Ponta Delgada district of the Azores (comprising the Islands of St. Michael and St. Mary) has expressed his intention of putting into force immediately the laws which ordain that foreigners on arriving in Portuguese territory are to present themselves within 48 hours to the Civil Governor in the capitals of districts or to the "Administrador do Concelho" in other towns, and produce a certificate of nationality from their respective Diplomatic or Consular authorities in order that permission to reside may be granted to them, under penalty of fine and expulsion from Portuguese territory.

COREA.

Improvement of Coinage.

The Acting British Vice-Consul at Chemulpo (Mr. Harrington) reports that an Imperial Ordinance, dated January, 1905, provides for the improvement of the coinage and the substitution of a new nickel coin, to date from June, 1905. This will involve a loan from Japan, 3,000,000 yen in specie being the sum named. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,407.)

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the **Number** of **Bales** of **Cotton Imported** and **Exported** at the **Various Ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the Week and 25 Weeks ended 22nd June, 1905 :—

—	Week ended 22nd June, 1905.	25 Weeks ended 22nd June, 1905.	Week ended 22nd June, 1905.	25 Weeks ended 22nd June, 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	83,252	1,839,427	2,383	154,289
Brazilian	2,064	30,864	25	549
East Indian	248	24,972	32	7,096
Egyptian	6,965	255,242	2,046	55,840
Miscellaneous	2,394*	34,615†	29	1,759‡
Total	94,923	2,185,120	4,515	219,533

* Including 129 bales British West Indian and 100 bales British West African.
† " 2,997 bales British West Indian and 1,452 bales British West African.
‡ " 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the **Average Price** of **British Corn,** per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 24th June, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 24th June, 1905	31	7	23	9	18	10
Corresponding week in—						
1898	38	3	23	4	20	8
1899	25	7	24	2	18	0
1900	26	11	23	4	19	3
1901	27	6	25	4	20	0
1902	30	5	24	3	22	9
1903	27	6	22	0	18	6
1904	26	5	19	2	16	10

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 24th June, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 24th June, 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	8,516	*13,645*
Sheep and lambs	"	1,886	*5,105*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	167	*211*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	111,501	*64,055*
Mutton	"	115,889	*95,911*
Pork	"	4,259	*4,257*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	103,662	*112,016*
Beef	"	2,456	*2,372*
Hams	"	22,839	*38,251*
Pork	"	5,035	*5,952*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	17,172	*10,823*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	11,559	*11,072*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	78,495	*86,132*
Margarine	"	20,194	*18,375*
Cheese	"	64,735	*53,214*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	130	*195*
" condensed	"	18,858	*17,265*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	3	*101*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	476,373	*379,155*
Poultry	Value £	6,318	*6,239*
Game	"	15	*2*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	3,127	*248*
Lard	"	56,736	*46,745*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,693,800	*2,112,100*
Wheat meal and flour	"	218,600	*194,800*
Barley	"	308,300	*106,500*
Oats	"	614,700	*192,600*
Peas	"	36,797	*42,230*
Beans	"	6,090	*3,160*
Maize or Indian corn	"	735,900	*528,500*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	8,755	*26,587*
Apricots and peaches	"	608	*945*
Bananas	Bunches.	147,442	*105,240*
Cherries	Cwts.	34,546	*43,990*
Currants...	"	3,812	*7,301*
Gooseberries	"	3,755	*10,248*
Grapes	"	157	*247*
Lemons	"	28,616	*17,424*
Oranges	"	24,541	*68,220*
Pears	"	2	*66*
Plums	"	69	*60*
Strawberries	"	5,807	*7,412*
Unenumerated	"	2,444	*5,826*
Hay...	Tons.	3,009	*4,169*
Straw	"	1,881	*3,375*
Moss Litter. (Not shown prior to 1905) ...	"	1,746	—
Hops	Cwts.	710	*693*
Locust Beans	"	12,240	*30*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	65,701	*109,242*
Potatoes	Cwts.	428,162	*424,470*
Tomatoes	"	38,167	*46,692*
Unenumerated	Value £	13,557	*11,379*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	2,066	*2,742*
Preserved by canning...	"	1,825	*1,400*

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of May, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that Volume I. of the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 7*d.* at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900–1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country). The second volume will contain details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the June issue:—State of the Labour Market in May; Relief of the Unemployed; Changes in Agricultural Rates of Wages in 1904; Accident and Sickness Insurance in Austria; and Recent Conciliation Cases.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,409. Trade of Lyons, St. Etienne and Grenoble, 1904.

Depression in silk trade up to middle of 1904, but improvement subsequently.

Value of silk exports by countries, the United Kingdom taking 50 per cent. of the total.

Comparative statistics of production at Lyons and St. Etienne of all descriptions of silk manufactures, &c.

Conditions of Grenoble glove industry.

No. 3,410. Trade of Palestine, 1904.

Trade active, with prospects of continued development.

Increase in exports of oranges, wines and spirits, wool and skins, and in imports of machinery, iron bedsteads and hardware generally.

Progress of the German and Jewish colonies.

Results of experiments in cotton cultivation.

Construction of a disinfecting station off Jaffa.

This publication contains also the report of the Acting British Vice-Consul at Jaffa.

Government Publications.

No. 3,411. Trade of Galicia, the Asturias and Leon, 1904.

Decline in trade of Corunna, owing to increased facilities at neighbouring ports.

Returns of imports and exports at Corunna, Ferrol, Gijon, Vigo, Villagarcia and Vivero.

Openings for trade in locks, improved farming tools and other labour-saving devices.

No. 3,412. Trade of Stockholm and Eastern Coast of Sweden, 1904.

Approximate figures of import and export of Sweden in 1904.

Prosperous condition of shipping trade.

Statistics of iron production and export.

Notes on the timber and wood pulp trades.

Electrification of railways.

Increasing use of motors, gas, gasoline and oil engines.

Trade in cereals.

Openings for British trade.

Returns of imports and exports at East Coast ports of Sweden.

This publication contains also reports by H.M. Representatives at Gefle, Lulea, Nykoping and Soderhamn.

No. 3,413. Trade of Dunkirk, 1904.

Decrease in imports, notably in coal and cotton, but increase in exports, chiefly in coal and steel rails to the French colonies.

Unsatisfactory condition of the metallurgical industry and the jute trade.

Share of British colonies and foreign countries in the shipping trade of the port.

Proposed dock extensions.

Comparative tables of imports and exports, with notes on character of trade.

No. 3,414. Trade of Cadiz, 1904.

Returns of imports and exports, with notes.

Stationary condition of the trade of the port. Need for harbour improvements.

Opening for steel works, motor car services, and for trade in connection with tourists' needs.

Notes on the sherry trade.

This publication contains also reports by the British Vice-Consuls at Algeciras, San Roque, Cordoba, Huelva, Seville.

No. 3,415. Trade of Muskat, 1904-5.

Increase of 163,969 dols. in value of imports, due chiefly to larger purchases of arms and ammunition, piece goods, coffee and rice.

Decrease of 455,540 dols. in exports, owing to falling-off in date crop.

Government Publications.

No. 3,416. Trade of Central Italy, 1904.

Figures of imports into Rome, showing gradual improvement.

Opening for business in india-rubber, woollen cloths, scent and soaps.

Agricultural improvements.

Building revival.

New railways.

This publication contains also a report by the British Vice-Consul at Civitavecchia.

No. 3,417. Trade of Fiume, 1904.

Increased imports of maize (owing to shortage in Hungarian crop), rice, coal, and nitrates.

Notes on trade with United Kingdom, India, South Africa, &c.

Returns of imports, exports, and shipping.

No. 3,418. Trade of North Portugal, 1904.

Returns of trade, showing increasing imports from the United Kingdom, notably of coal and chemicals.

Wine trade still depressed; unpromising outlook for 1905 season.

Statistics of manufacturing industries.

Proposed railway and sewerage works.

Shipping returns at Oporto and Leixoẽs.

No. 3,419. Trade of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, 1904.

Notes on export trade in grain, fruit, timber, &c.

Declining share of the United Kingdom in import trade, except in respect of coke and plain earthenware.

Progress of manufacturing industries in Oregon.

Notes on fisheries and mining.

Condition of agriculture, horticulture, stock-farming, &c.

Returns of imports and exports at Portland, with remarks on character of trade.

This publication contains also reports by H.M. Representatives at Astoria, Port Townsend, Tacoma and Seattle.

No. 3,420. Trade of Kermanshah, 1904-5.

Increased imports of cotton goods from the United Kingdom, and exports of gum tragacanth.

Returns of imports and exports at Kermanshah and Kurdistan, with countries of origin and destination.

No. 3,421. Trade of Pakhoi, 1904.

Value of total trade lower owing to encroachment of rival routes.

Imports of British origin amount to 40 per cent. of the whole.

Increase in import of cottons, kerosene oil and rubber shoes.

Government Publications.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

East India (Progress and Condition). Statement Exhibiting the Moral and Material Progress of India during the year 1903-04. 180. *Price* 1*s.* 7*d.*

This publication is prepared in the India Office from a large number of annual reports received from India. The administration, finance, public works, education, trade, &c., of the couutry are dealt with exhaustively. Tables of the net revenue and expenditure are appended to the report.

Twenty-Third Annual Report of the Fishery Board for Scotland. Part I. General Report. (*Cd.* 2,547.) *Price* 1*s.* 7*d.*

From this report it appears that in the year 1904 the highest catch on record in the sea-fisheries of Scotland was attained. It reached 7,947,829 cwts., or 1,081,801 cwts. more than in 1902—the previous best—and 1,429,021 cwts. more than in 1903. In the matter of value, however, the catch of 1904 does not compare so favourably, being lower than that of either 1902 or 1903. The total value of the fish landed in Scotland in 1904 was 2,231,102*l.*; in 1903, 2,401,287*l.*; and in 1902, 2,502,668*l.*

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

Annual.

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—	Cyprus	2½*d.*
444	Basutoland...	3*d.*
445	Leeward Islands	2½*d.*
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Miscellaneous.

No.	Place.	Price.
29	Ceylon. Reports on the results of the Mineral Survey in 1903–4	2½*d.*
30	Pitcairn Island. Report by Mr. R. T. Simons	1*d.*

Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which is exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

March, 1905.

SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

March, 1905.

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THE Board of Trade Journal

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

JUNE 29, 1905.

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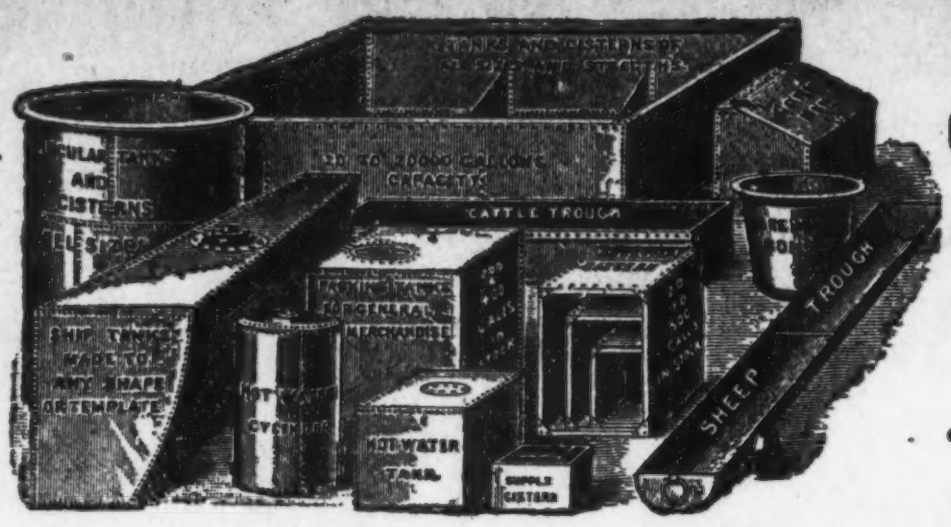

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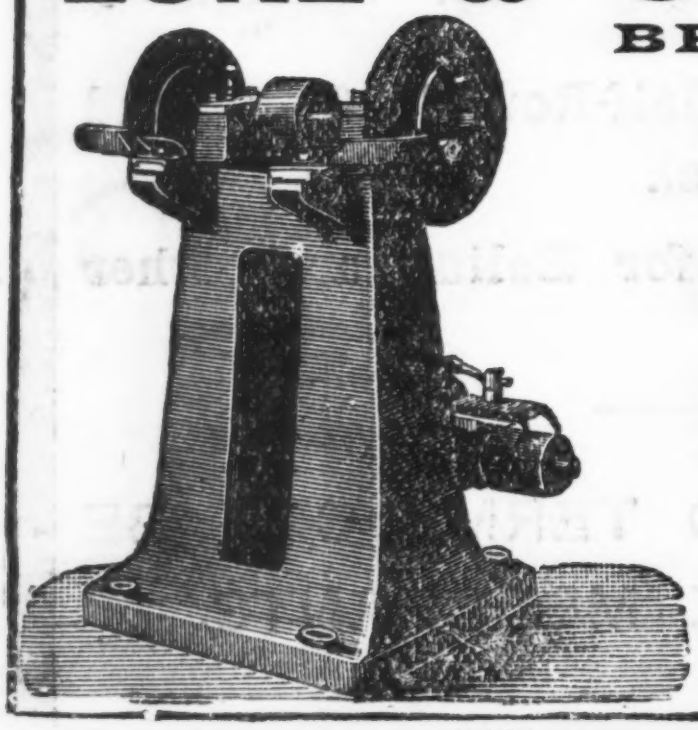

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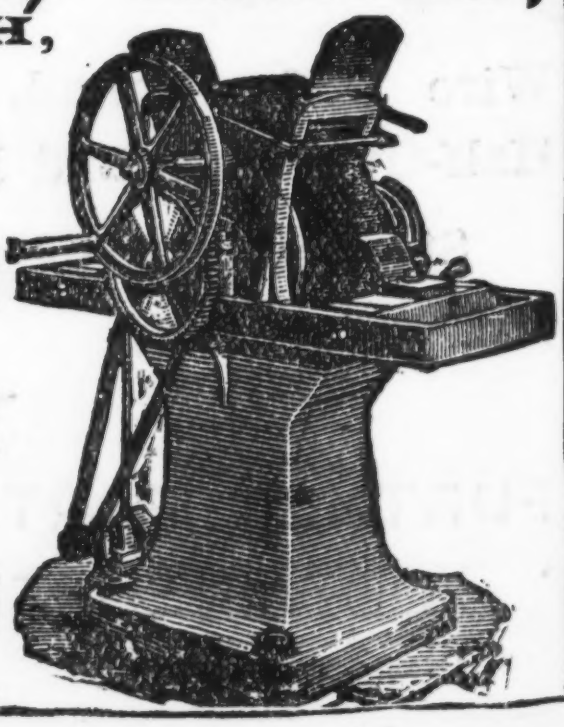

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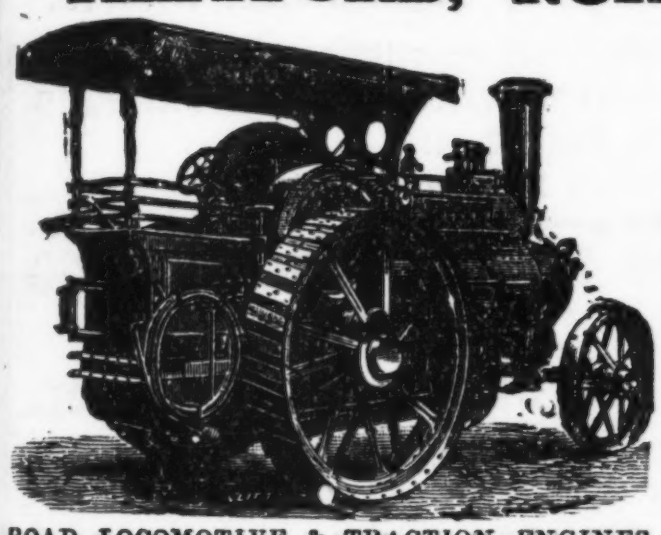

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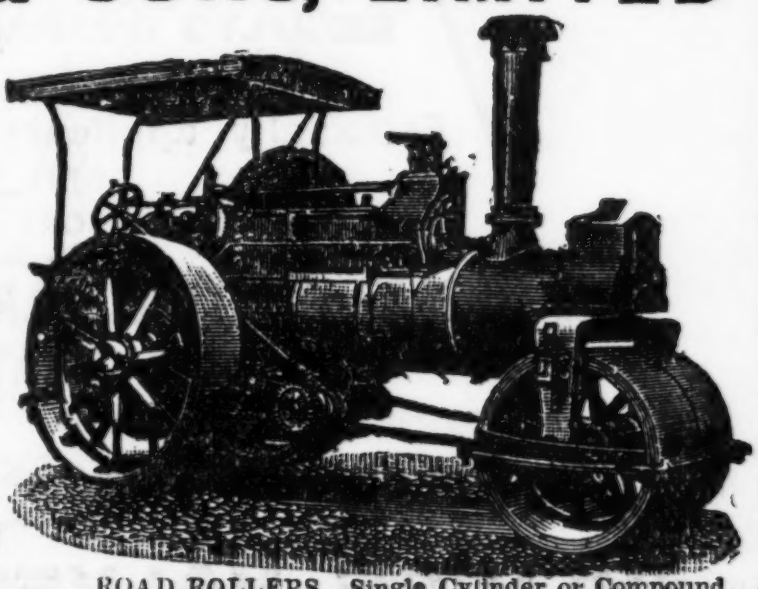

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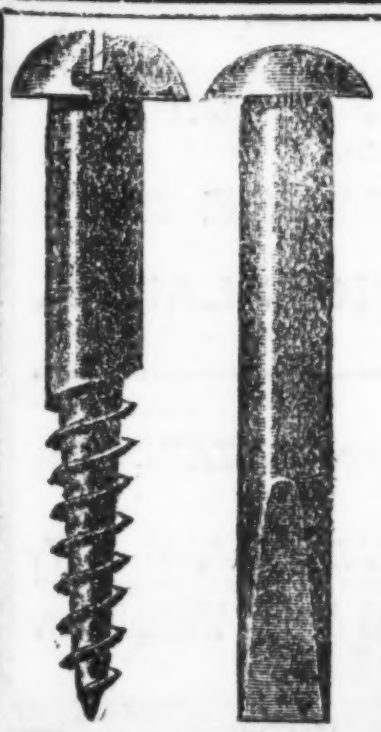

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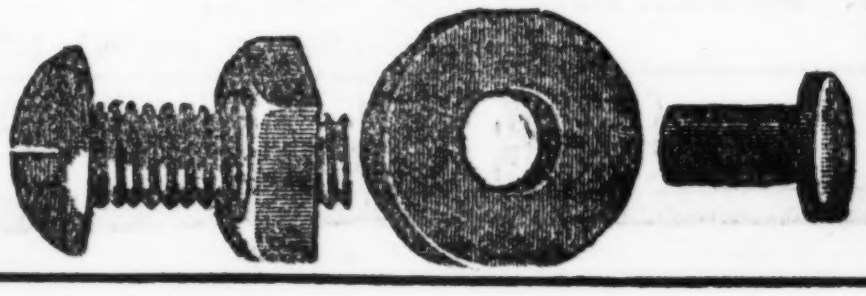

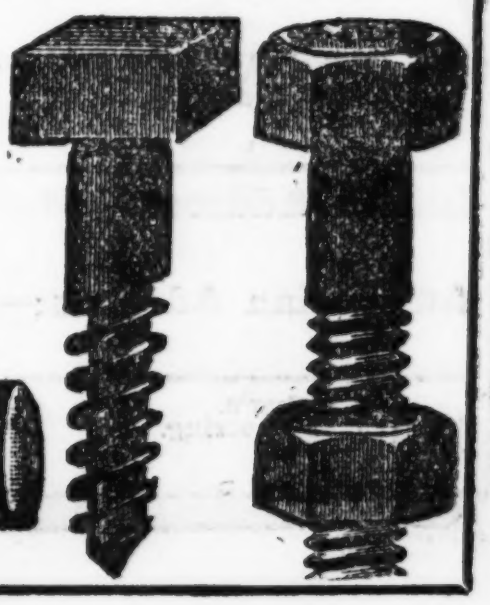

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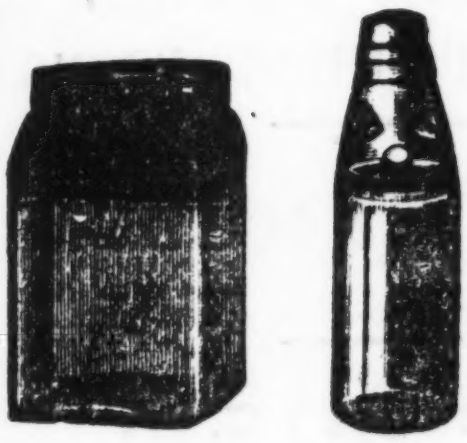

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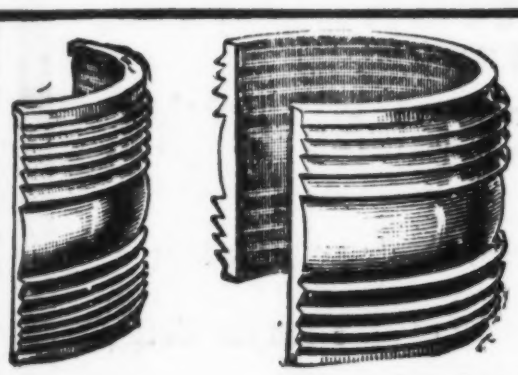

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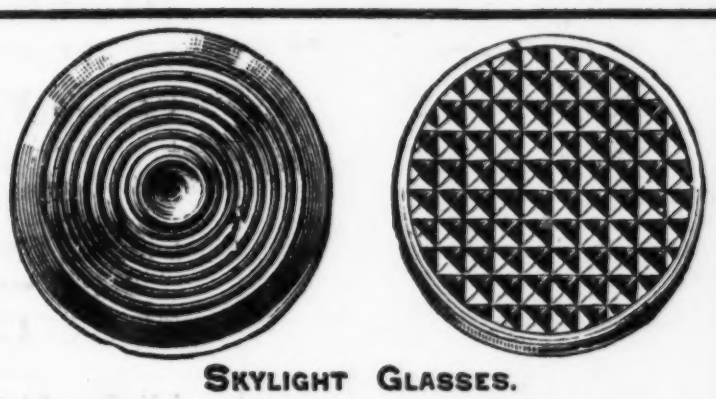

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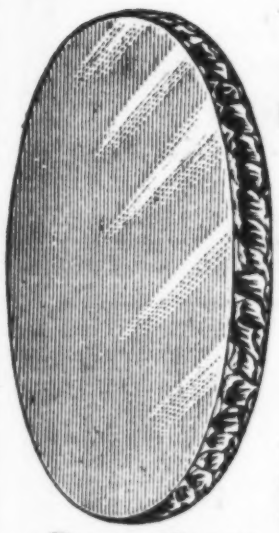

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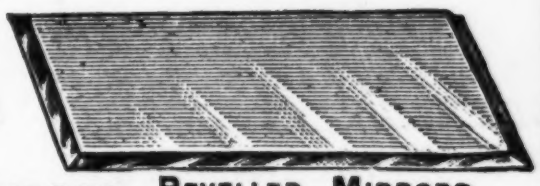

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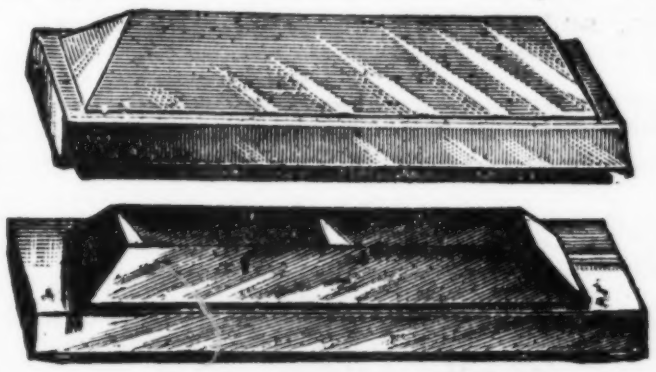

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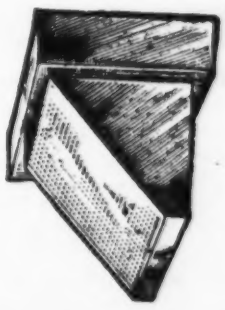

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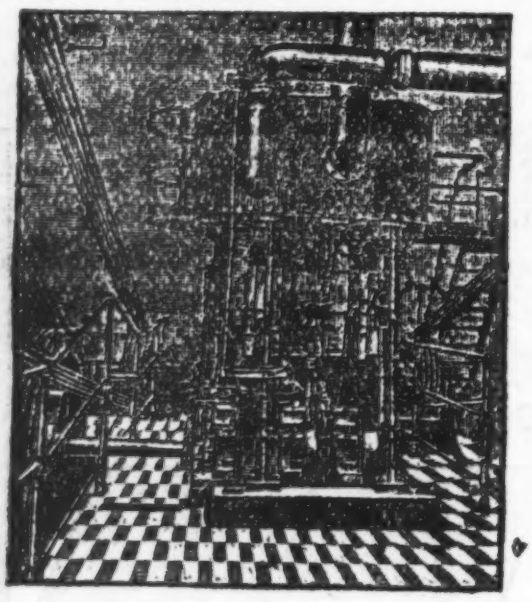

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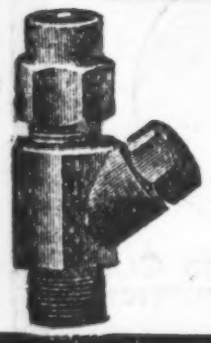

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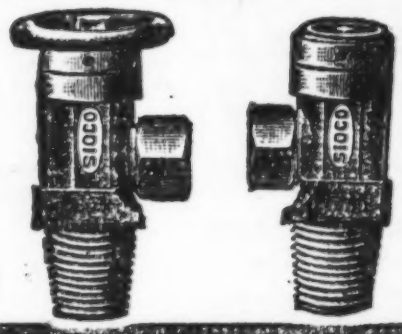

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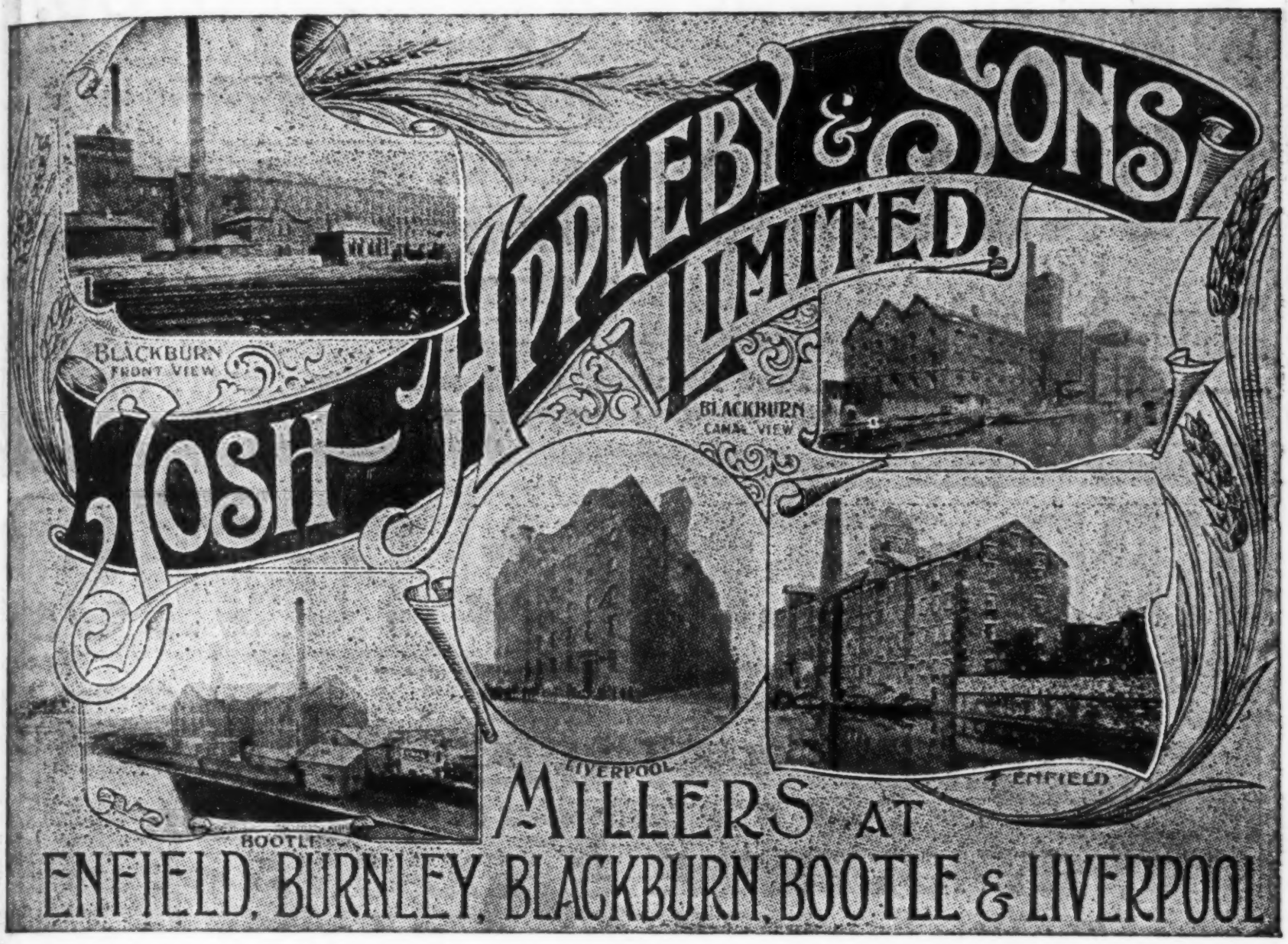

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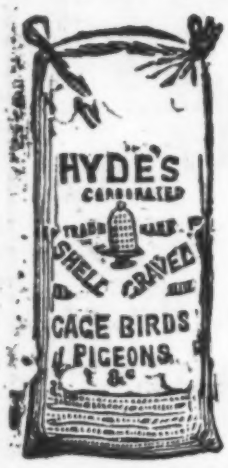

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APPOINTMENTS.

Southall-Norwood Urban District Council.

Surveyor's Assistant.

The Council invites applications for the appointment of Assistant to their Surveyor, at a salary of £75 per annum.

Candidates must have had experience in a municipal surveyor's or engineer's office, and in building construction and private street works.

The duties will be such as the Surveyor directs.

Preference will be given to candidates holding qualifications from the Institution of Civil Engineers or Association of Municipal and County Engineers.

The successful candidate will be required to devote the whole of his time to the service of the Council, and will not be permitted to undertake any private work whatever.

Applications, in own handwriting, stating age, present occupation and qualifications, accompanied by copies of two recent testimonials, and at least one original drawing, to be sent to the undersigned not later than 4 o'clock p.m., on the 5th day of July next.

Canvassing, either directly or indirectly, is prohibited and will be a disqualification.

A. LAWRENCE HOULDER,
(Solicitor), Clerk.

Public Office,
Southall, Middlesex,
June 19th, 1905.

Metropolitan Borough of Islington.

Inspectors of Sewers, Drains and Buildings.

The Works Committee of this Council are prepared to receive applications for the appointment of an Inspector of Sewers, Drains and Buildings.

Candidates must have practical experience in and a thorough knowledge of the following subjects: Construction and repair of sewers, drains and sanitary fittings; the cleansing of sewers, gullies, urinals, &c.; selection of materials; levelling; setting out and measuring up works; making estimates and sketches; squaring dimensions; and the management of men. None but those who have been engaged in a similar capacity need apply.

The person appointed will be required to devote the whole of his time to the duties of the situation, and will be required to pass a medical examination as to his constitutional fitness for the situation.

Salary to commence at 50s. per week, rising by annual increments of 5s. per week to a maximum of £3 per week.

Applications in the handwriting of the candidate, stating age, present employment, and accompanied by copies of not more than three testimonials of recent date, must be delivered to the undersigned not later than 12 noon on Saturday, the 1st July, 1905.

WM. F. DEWEY,
Town Clerk.

CONTRACTS.

Urban District Council of Teddington.

To Road Contractors and Tar Paviors.

The above-named Council are desirous of receiving tenders for the following Works in connection with the Making Up of Fairfax Road (part of), Bushey Park Road, Atbara Road and Blenheim Road, in their district, viz.:—

10,085 super. yards of Roadway, Forming and Metalling.
1,972 lineal yards of Kerbing
2,866 lineal yards of Channelling.
6,391 super. yards of Tar Paving.
867 lineal yards of taking up and relaying Kerbing.
261 lineal yards of laying Surface-Water Drain, and other works.

Plans and specifications may be seen, bills of quantities and forms of tender obtained (on payment of £2 2s., which will be returned on receipt of a bona-fide tender), on application to Mr. M. Hainsworth, Surveyor, Elmfield House, Teddington.

Tenders will not be considered unless made out on the form provided.

Sealed tenders, endorsed "Private Street Works," must reach me, the undersigned, not later than noon on Monday, the 10th day of July, 1905.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

(By order)
G. H. SALMONS,
Clerk.

Borough of Ealing.

Private Street Improvements.

The Town Council of this Borough hereby invite tenders for the Making Up of the following Roads:—

Woodfield Crescent (first portion).
Kingsley Avenue (first portion).
Queen's Gardens.

The drawings and specifications may be seen, and form of tender, together with schedule of quantities and other particulars, obtained from Mr. Charles Jones, M.Inst.C.E., Borough Engineer, Town Hall, Ealing, W., any day during office hours, upon payment of a deposit of 10s. 6d. for each road, which will be returned upon receipt of a bona-fide tender.

Sealed tenders, in the envelopes provided, endorsed "Tenders for Making Up ——," must be delivered at my office not later than first post on Tuesday, the 4th day of July, 1905.

The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

Dated this 19th day of June, 1905.

Borough of Faversham.

To Wood Paving Contractors.

The Corporation of the Borough of Faversham invites tenders for Taking Up and Relaying 976 superficial yards (more or less) of Wood Block Paving in West Street, Faversham.

The plans and specification can be seen and a form of tender obtained at the office of the Borough Surveyor, Mr. S. Percy Andrews, 20, West Street, Faversham, any morning between the hours of 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Tenders, in sealed envelopes, endorsed "West Street Paving," to be sent to the undersigned not later than 12 o'clock noon on Saturday, the 1st day of July, 1905.

The Corporation does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

ALLAN TASSELL,
Town Clerk.

CONTRACTS.

Borough of Faversham.

The Corporation of the Borough of Faversham invites tenders for the supply of 1,632 tons (more or less) of Guernsey Granite or Rhenish Basalt, broken to a 2-in. gauge, and of 105 tons (more or less) of clean ¾-in. Guernsey Granite or Rhenish Basalt Chippings, free from dust, and of 105 tons (more or less) of clean ⅜-in. Guernsey Granite or Rhenish Basalt Chippings free from dust.

The material is to be delivered on to the Town Wharf, Faversham, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the wharf, or into carts or trucks, as may be directed by the borough surveyor.

The whole of the material is to be delivered in such quantities and at such times, not later than December 25, 1905, as may be ordered by the borough surveyor.

Tenders, in sealed envelopes, endorsed "Tender for Road Metal," must be sent to the undersigned not later than 12 o'clock noon on Saturday, the 1st day of July, 1905.

The Corporation does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender; but should a tender be accepted, the person tendering will be required to enter into a contract, in the form now deposited at the Town Clerk's Office, and which can be seen on application, with the corporation for the due performance of his tender.

ALLAN TASSELL,
Town Clerk.

20, West-street, Faversham.
June 8, 1905.

Urban District of Cleckheaton.

Annual Contracts.

The Council for the above District invites tenders for the following for the year ending June 30, 1906:—

1. Lias Lime and Portland Cement.
2. Granite.
3. Gas Coal.
4. Carbolic Powder, Carbolic Soap, Sulphur Candles, Soap, &c.
5. Tar, Pitch and Oil.
6. Pipes, Bends, Junctions, Bricks, Road Gulleys, &c.
7. Charging Shovels, Coke Forks, Rakes, Auger Heads. Files, Pig Lead, Meter Taps, Brooms, Gaskin, Cotton Waste, Sponge Cloths, Red and White Lead, Dry, Wet and Prepayment Meters, Gas and Water Mains.
8. Delphstone Kerb, and Setts, Flags, and Dross.
9. Fodder, Straw, &c.
10. Manhole and Lamphole Covers, Picks, Shovels, Refilling Machine Brushes, Brooms, &c.
11. Sundries for Electricity Works, including Cylinder Oil, Crank Chamber Oil, Jenkin's Jointing, Engine Packing, Asbestos, Manhole Joints, Gauge Glasses, Nuts and Bolts, Sponge Cloths.
12. Cartage of Coal from Railway Station to Gasworks.

Forms of tender, conditions and full particulars may be had on application at the under-mentioned office. Sealed tenders, marked "Tender for No. —," addressed to the undersigned, must be delivered not later than 4 p.m. on Saturday, the 8th day of July. The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

JOHN H. LINFIELD,
Clerk to the Council.

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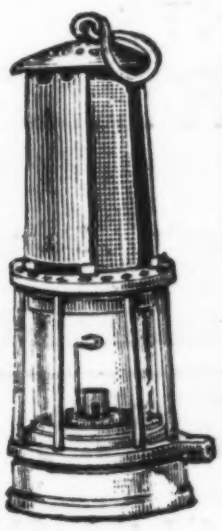

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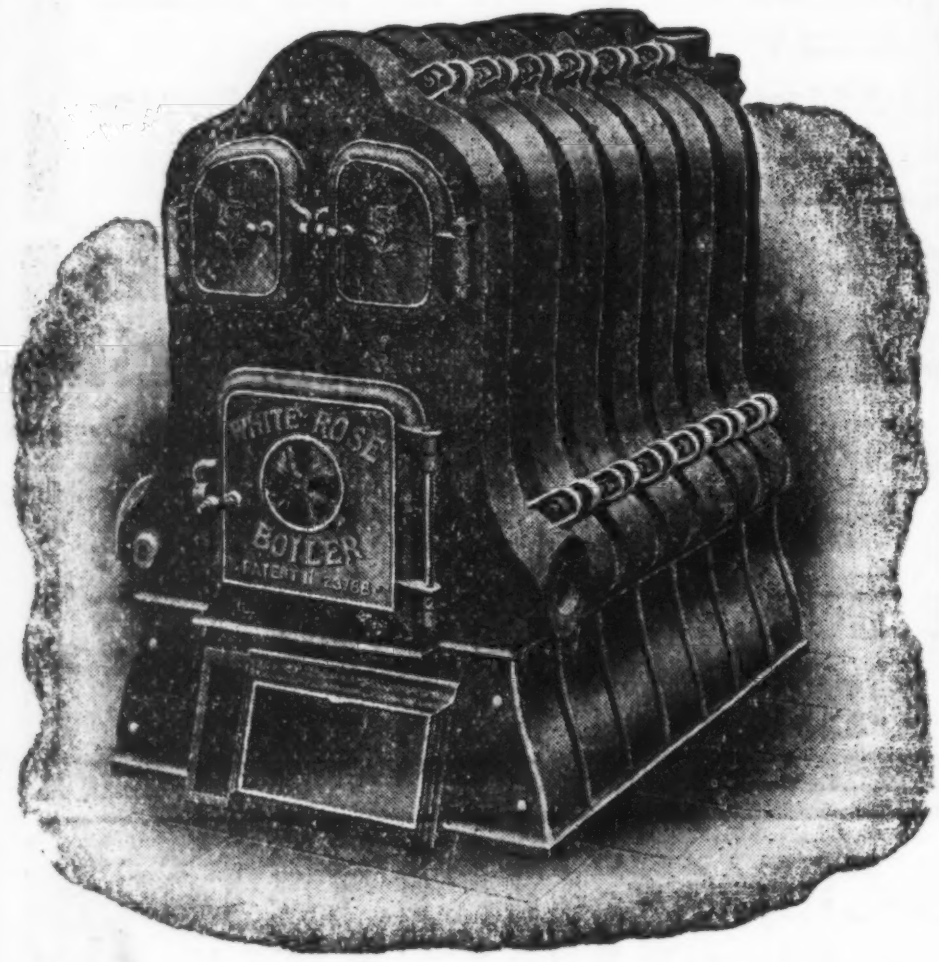

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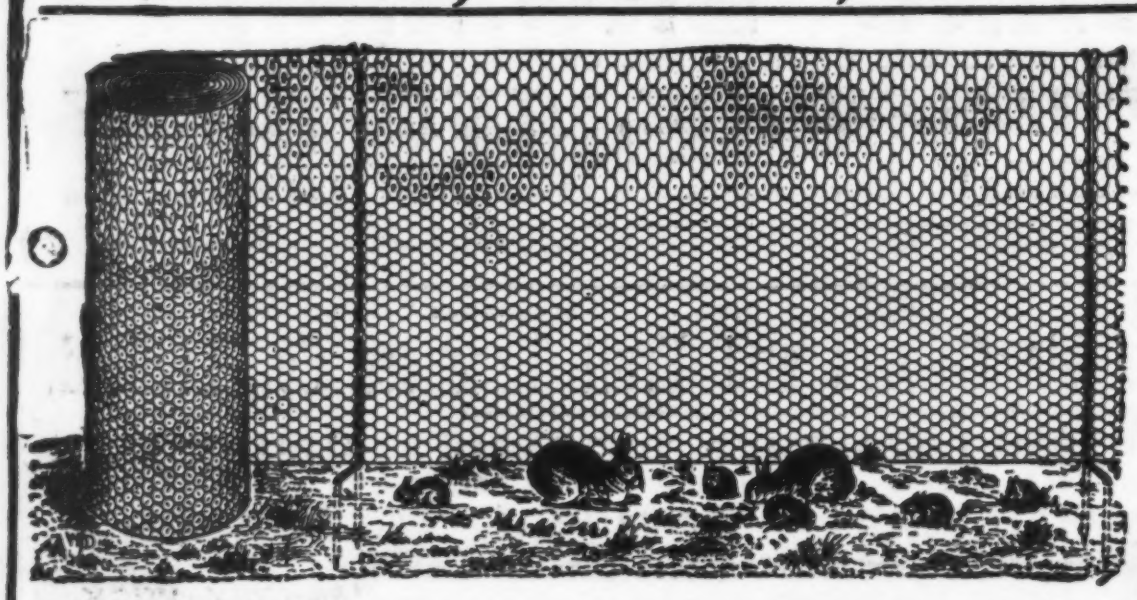

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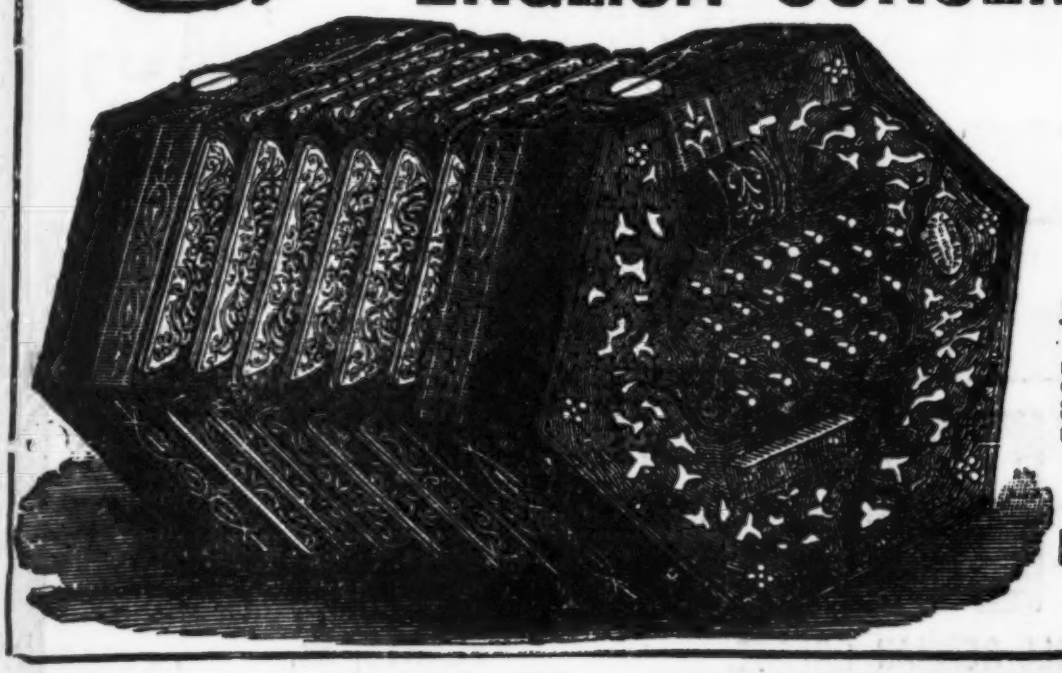

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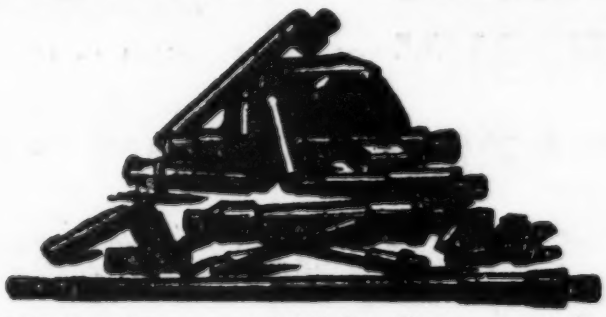

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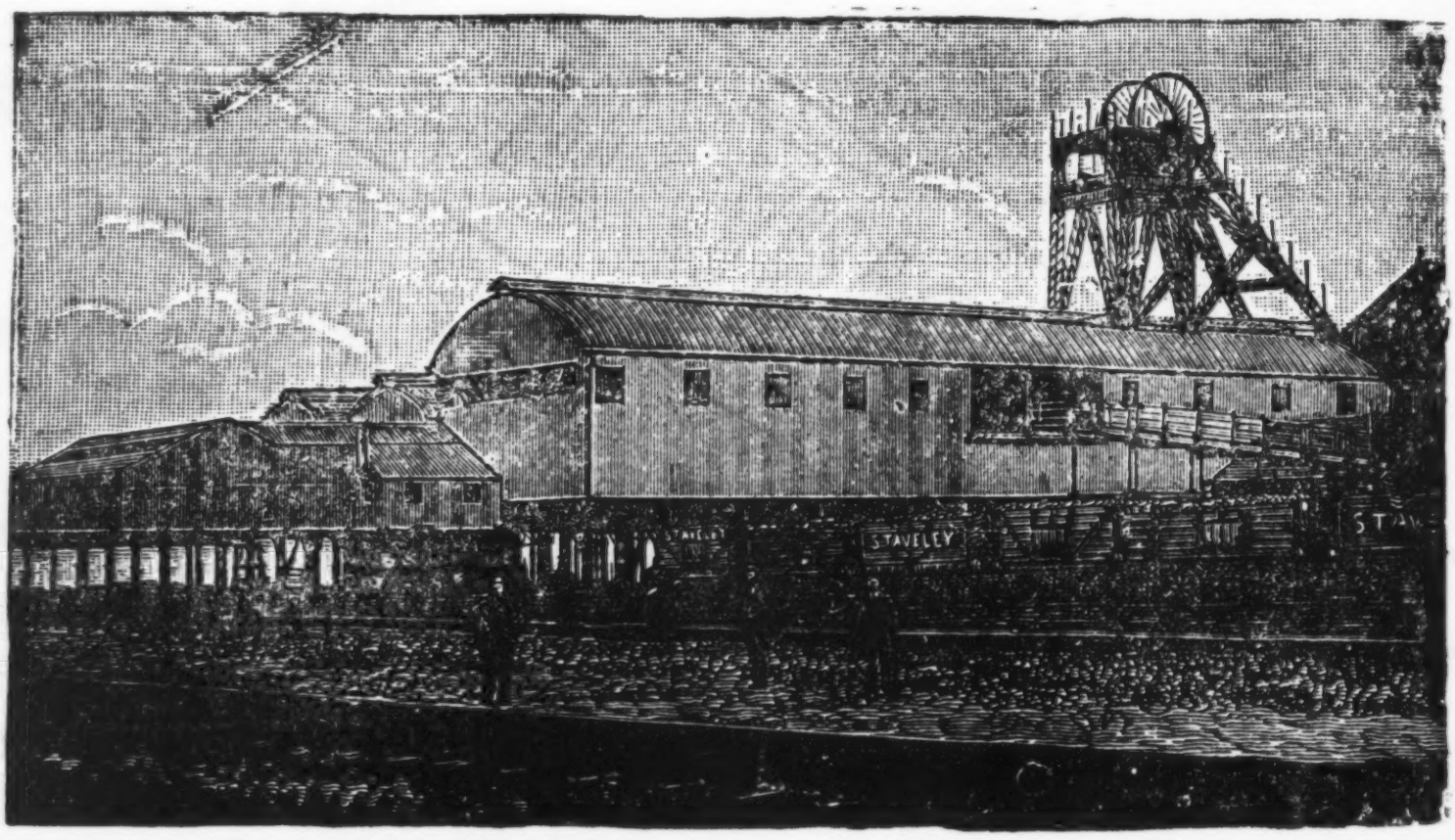

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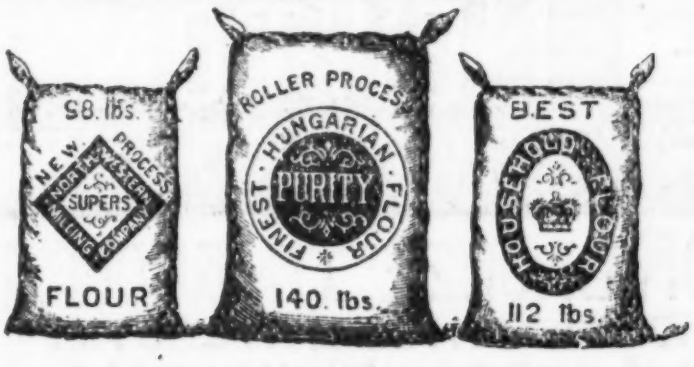

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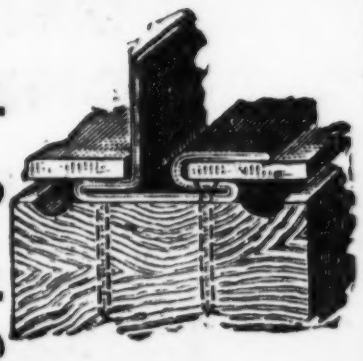

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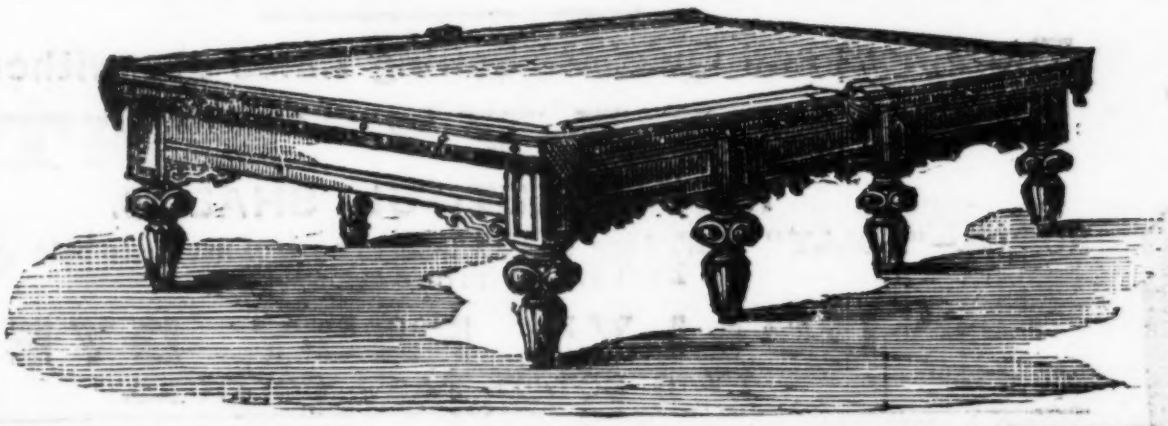

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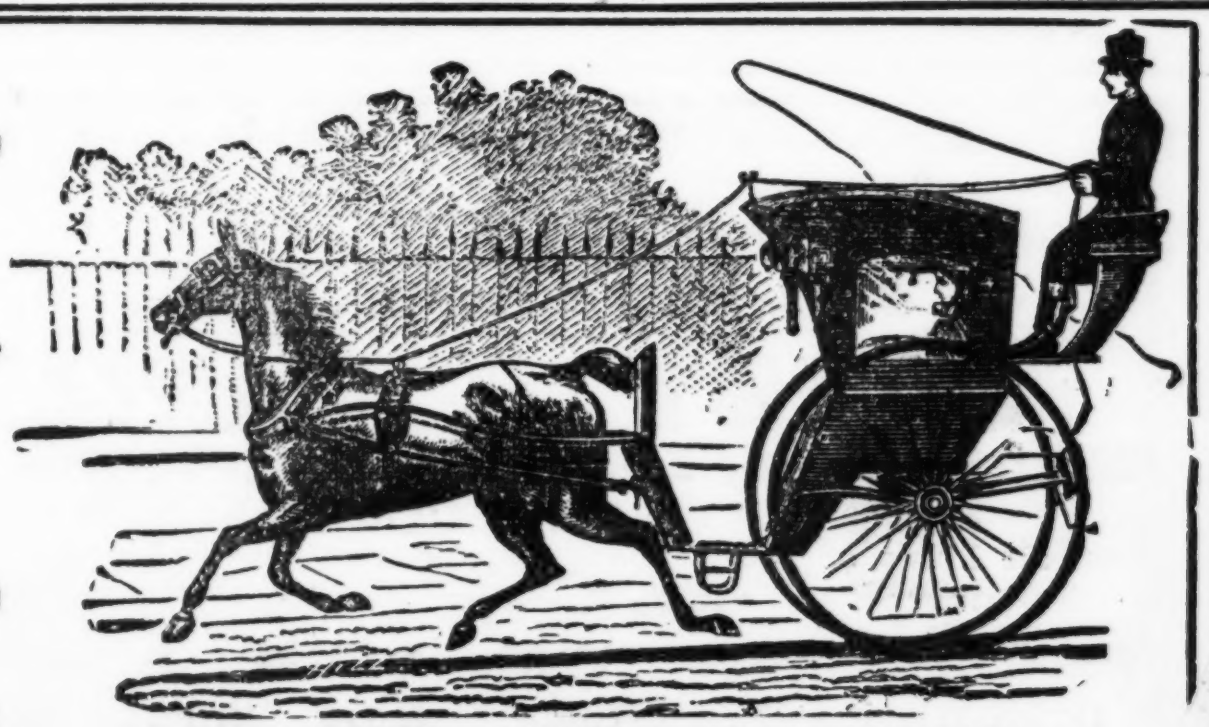

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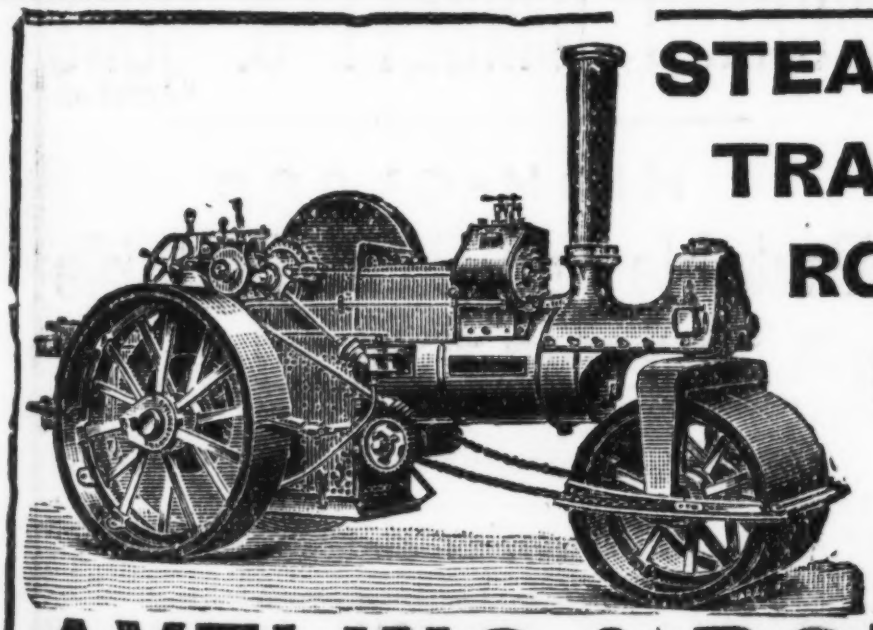

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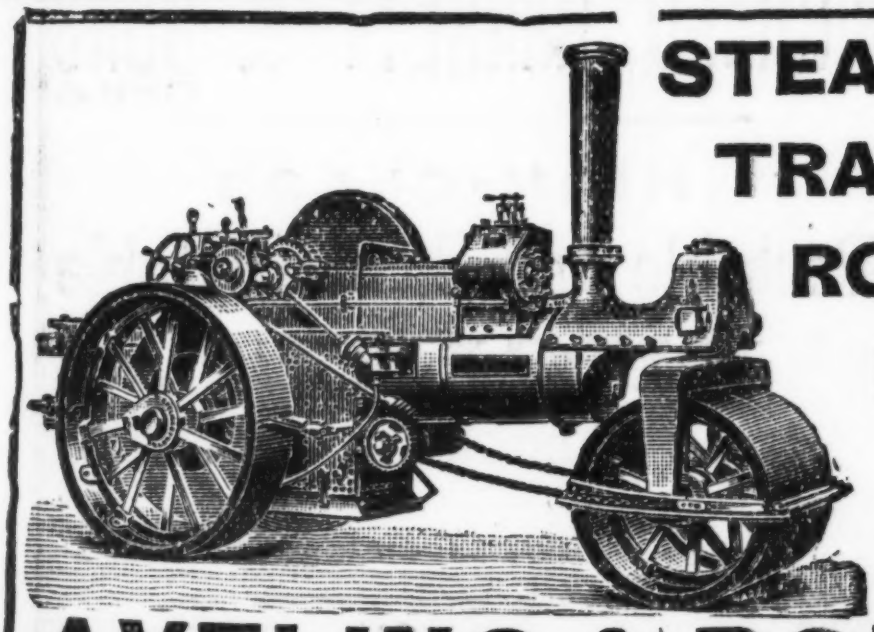

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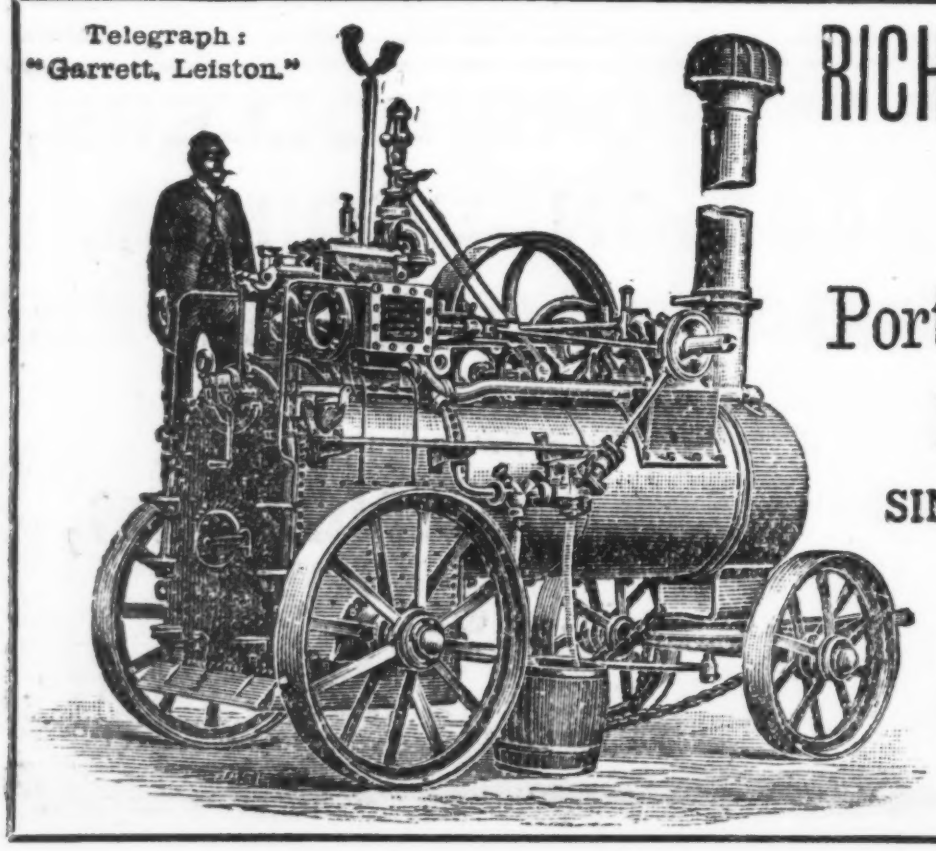

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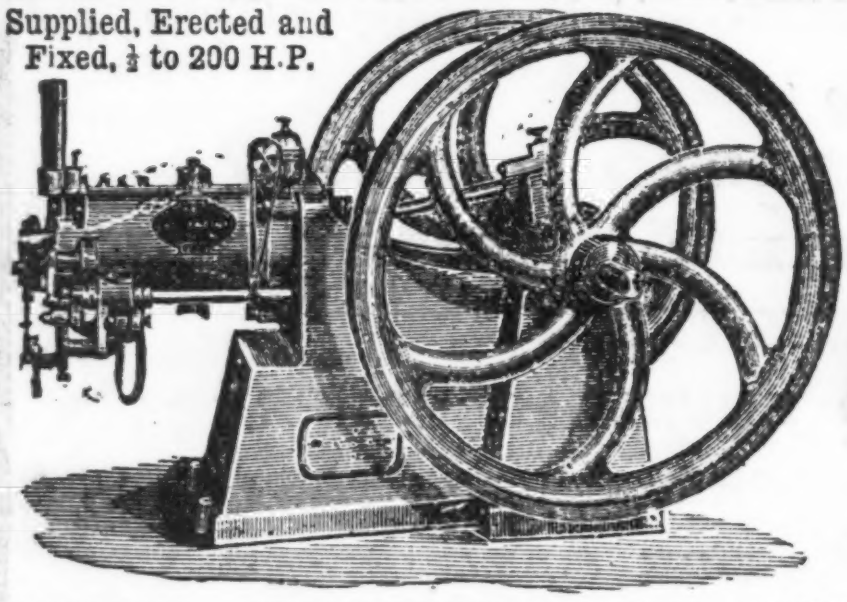

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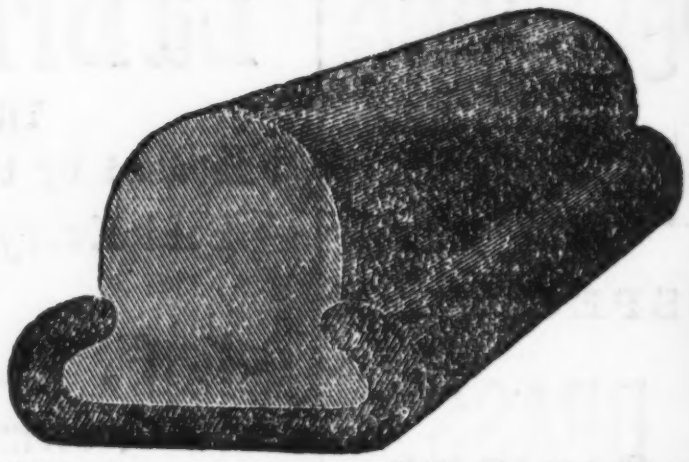

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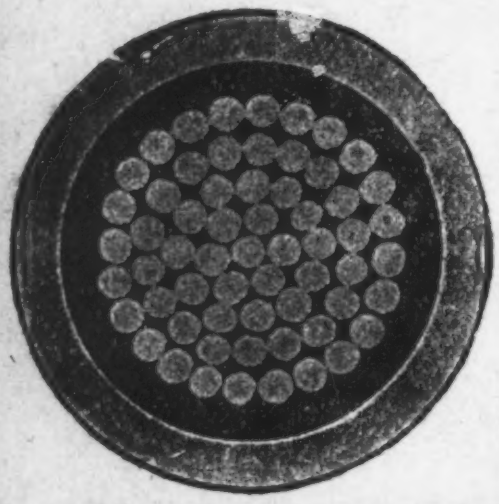

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